The Middlebury Campus

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KIERA DOWELL

The men's track and field team won big at the 2018 NESCAC championship this past Saturday, April 28, at Trinity College in Connecticut. This was the team's first ever championship.

LOCAL MASSEUR CHARGED WITH VOYEURISM

By ALLY MURPHY
Local Editor

A local masseur was charged with four counts of voyeurism after he allegedly videotaped four female customers at his business.

The masseur, Roger Schmidt, 53, owner of Roger's Relaxing Massage Therapy on Court Street in Middlebury, pleaded not guilty in Addison Superior Court on April 16. The investigation began after a customer, who felt they were being videotaped, filed a complaint. Police then searched the business and Schmidt's home, where they found hidden cameras and digital evidence, including 70 videos and photos.

Police believe the recording occurred without the knowledge or consent of the customers, four of which have been identified thus far. The investigation is ongoing as police attempt to identify more victims.

Students received an email on April 19 from Baishakhi Taylor, the dean of students, announcing the filing of criminal charges against Schmidt.

Taylor described the allegations as "deeply disturbing," and mentioned that Middlebury employees and their families, in addition to other members of the community, were clients of the business.

A student from Middlebury, who has been identified in the videos and wishes to remain anonymous, commented on the charges.

"I am angry about what he did, but it only makes me angrier that he is not in jail," the student said. "I'm not a legal expert, but from my research, the maximum sentence for doing what he did to me is either a $1,000 fine or two years in jail. Maximum. There is a good chance I will run into him in town while grocery shopping or getting gas, and I don't understand why the law doesn't protect me and the other women from this possibility. He will get to continue to live the rest of his life relatively normally despite having sexually violated dozens of women."

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Students Took Koch Money to Fund On-Campus Lecture

By CAROLINE KAPP
Staff Writer

The college's Open Campus Initiative (OCI) hosted a talk on free speech in large part through funding from the Institute for Humane Studies (IHS), a libertarian think tank. Charles Koch, an astronomically wealthy champion of the right who has helped back the Tea Party among other Republican causes and politicians, is on the board of directors of the IHS.

IHS is based at George Mason University. According to donor agreements released on Monday, in exchange for multi-million dollar donations to the university, the Koch brothers and other donors have played a role in hiring and firing faculty members. George Mason has denied this connection between the Charles Koch foundation and the university for years.

The OCI brought Jonathan Rauch to campus on April 19 for the talk, entitled "Why Free Speech is the Only Safe Space for Minorities." Rauch has authored six books and is a contributing editor at The Atlantic and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Much of Rauch's research focuses mainly on public policy issues, though he has also written about cultural issues. As an openly gay man he has stood up for gay rights, most prominently in his 2004 book "Gay Marriage: Why It Is Good for Gays, Good for Straights, and Good for America" and his 2013 memoir "Denial: My 25 Years Without a Soul."

Sam Zieve-Cohen '19.5 and David Rubinstein '18 founded the OCI at the college this fall with an aim to foster the discussion of diverse opinions. Zieve-Cohen and Rubinstein serve as president and treasurer of the OCI, respectively.

"The group aims to facilitate discussions, lectures, and other activities to overcome cultural and political balkanization on campus and beyond," Rubinstein said.

Rubinstein is also co-president of the College Republicans and a member of the American Enterprise Institute.

When asked about the seemingly politicized source of funding, Rubinstein said that the choice of speaker was not influenced by the IHS and denied serving any political agenda.

"In dealing with potential sponsors, we make one thing very clear: the leaders of OCI – and no one else – need to have full control over the event," Rubinstein said. "We would reject any funding that comes with political strings attached."

According to Rubinstein, the OCI reached out to the IHS for funding after they had decided on bringing Rauch as a speaker.

"Our choice of speaker was made by Sam and I alone," Rubinstein said. "Only after choosing our speaker did we go about soliciting funding."

This was the first event that the OCI had received external funding for, as all previous events had been funded by the Student Government Association. This was also the OCI's first event with a speaker; the group only hosted informal discussions in its first months.

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COLLEGE RECRUITS FROM RICHER, WHITER HIGH SCHOOLS THAN PEERS

By BOCHU DING
Senior Writer

College recruitment data cited in a recent New York Times article reveals a trend of recruitment at whiter and richer high schools, with Middlebury's recruitment strategy noticeably lacking in comparison to its peers that demonstrate a more diversity-conscious approach.

The article, "Colleges Recruit at Richer, Whiter High Schools," by University of Arizona doctoral candidate Karina Salazar and UCLA professor Ozan Jaquette, uses data from 42 colleges. Salazar and Jaquette argue that despite touting a commitment to diversity, many colleges' recruitment practices indicate otherwise.

Connecticut College's recruitment record proved to be one of the whitest and richest, as the college visited schools where the median family income was on average $119,000. Demographically, it visited schools with an average of 66 percent white students.

According to the analysis, Middlebury ran in the middle of the pack. It recruited from locations where family median income was on average $101,000, and did not visit locations where family median income was $62,000. In terms of racial composition, the schools Middlebury visited have an average demographic of 57 percent white students.

Though Middlebury's recruitment strategy falls near the middle of the total sample, the college is noticeably lacking in comparison to its peer schools. Williams, Wellesley and Swarthmore visited high schools where the average share of white students was 46, 37 and 41 percent respectively.

Middlebury's recruitment strategy may be the reason for its comparatively lackluster performance in both racial and economic diversity on campus. Middlebury is the fifth whitest school in the NESCAC, with white students making up 63 percent of its student body. In addition, a much smaller percent of students apply for need-based aid than at comparative institutions.

While diversity at Middlebury is currently eclipsed by its peer institutions, the admissions office is attempting to make slow and steady progress, according Greg Buckles, dean of admissions.

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Davis Library Commits to Patron Privacy

By ETHAN BRADY
Editor in Chief

The debate about data privacy unfolding in national newspapers and the halls of Congress has finally reached the college on the hill. This time, privacy advocates have something to rejoice in.

In a memo last week, the Davis Family Library announced it would not keep records on borrowing history for patrons. It was not a policy change, per se — in fact, the library has never stored this data. But while the library was upgrading its catalog software this semester, staff had the choice to change its data policy.

Storing the data could allow the library to better manage its collections, or to suggest to patrons other materials based on their reading habits, wrote Michael Roy, dean of the library and the author of the memo. Despite these potential benefits, the library staff opted for privacy.

"The library has never stored any information about material individual patrons have checked out once the materials are returned to us," wrote Roy. "We believe that not storing that information at all is the best way to protect patron privacy."

The library, built in 2004, houses about 600,000 volumes, as well as historical Vermont documents, the college archives and U.S. government publications. It also maintains digital collections and is a member of Interlibrary Loan.

Roy's memo comes weeks after The New York Times reported that the personal data of 87 million people had been improperly shared with Cambridge Analytica, a political consulting firm aiming to build a voter profile of the American electorate. Days later, Mark Zuckerberg, founder and CEO of Facebook, faced scrutiny from lawmakers in Congress about his company's mishandling of data.

Increasingly, technology has upended norms of privacy, which is often outweighed by the sheer ease of digital surveillance. At Middlebury, the IT department faces the same moral dilemma when it configures new systems, Roy said.

"The technology is voracious," Roy said. "It wants to record every keystroke. You really have to work against that impulse if you want to be thoughtful about what information you keep."

In his memo, Roy included a diagram of the panopticon, a prison scheme developed in 1791 by Jeremy Bentham in which every prisoner is visible to a central watchman at all times. In the panopticon, inmates have no privacy — and they cannot tell when they are being watched.

The panopticon diagram has an uncanny resemblance to the library's architectural plan, which is depicted in the 75-foot-wide mural hanging in the atrium, "L'Art d'Ecrire." But the li-

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Student-Led Zero Energy Team Wins National Prize for Elementary School Design

By NICOLE POLLACK
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Race to Zero team won the elementary schools contest in the U.S. Department of Energy's annual Race to Zero Student Design competition held in Golden, Colorado from April 20-22. The college competed against 40 teams from 34 colleges and universities to design marketable, economically feasible and fully renewable buildings.

"In a monumental upset, our rag tag liberal arts team took first place in the Race to Zero Elementary Design competition," wrote Alex Browne '18 on the Middlebury Race to Zero team blog.

The contest was designed by the Department of Energy to engage students who are interested in architecture, engineering, construction and similar disciplines in thinking creatively about renewable and clean energy. Students were asked to update building designs and create plans for high-performance, energy-efficient buildings where renewable power could offset at least most of the energy consumption of the space.

Project manager Zach Berzolla '18 learned of the competition through director of sustainability integration Jack Byrne. He worked with geology professor Will Amidon to develop a student-taught winter term class focused on Zero Energy building design. The course was designed to teach students about the Zero Energy design process by developing a design for a Zero Energy elementary school in Vermont.

Over winter term and the spring semester, the team designed a two-story, 21-classroom, 500-student facility, which they believed would best suit Middlebury's residents and the Vermont climate.

Representatives from the college's team presented their final redesign of local Mary Hogan Elementary School at the College's Student Symposium on April 20 and again in front of a

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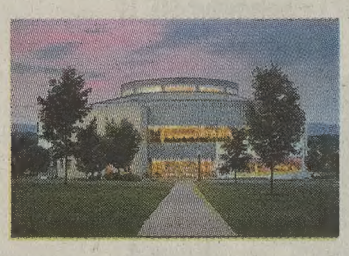
ELLEN JASKOL/NREL, DOE RACE TO ZERO

The team presented their plans for a zero-energy redesign of Mary Hogan Elementary School at the competition.

NEWS



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24/7 Lib Here to Stay... for Now

By ELIZABETH SAWYER
News Editor

Davis Family Library will remain open for 24 hours each day of finals week, according to Michael Roy, the dean of the library. Roy reached this decision after considering student survey data and deliberating with administrators and members of the Student Government Association.

Roy does want to limit the library's open hours during finals week next fall, by which time the library staff will have had time to plan for the switch.

"Upon reviewing the recent data from the student survey, I've decided to keep 24/7 for this spring," Roy said. "I believe that we should try staying open until 2 a.m. this fall. This gives us time to (a) figure out how to staff the library until 2 a.m. and (b) to communicate this to students so that they can plan accordingly."

Roy is concerned that keeping the library open for 24 hours will encourage students to skip out on sleep.

"I worry that staying open 24/7 sends the wrong message about sleep," Roy said. "There is a great deal of evidence that staying up all night is very bad for your health. And as someone who at times did stay up very late in college, it is clear to me now that the quality of work produced at 4 a.m. is much lower than work produced when not sleep deprived. I hope we can also take this into consideration this fall."

Using the results of the survey that the SGA sent to students on April 19, SGA president Jin Sohn recommended that the library stay open until 2 a.m. and re-open at 7 a.m. during finals week in an email to Roy and dean of students Baishakhi Taylor earlier this week. But after Roy decided to keep the library open for 24 hours, Sohn said she was pleased with Roy's final decision.

"I'm glad to hear that the 24/7 hours will be kept, seeing that many students still wanted it!", she said.

51.5 percent of student respondents answered "no" and 48.5 percent of respondents answered "yes" to the question, "should the library be open 24/7 for this upcoming spring finals week?" 60.2 percent of respondents said that they had used the library during its 24/7 hours during finals week in the fall.

While a large number of students reported using the library's from 12-3 a.m., far fewer students reported using the library from 3-7 a.m. Sohn's recommendation reflected the idea that keeping the library open all night might be unnecessary when students are largely using the facilities only an hour or two after the regular 1 a.m. closing time.

Sohn cited "financial constraints" as reasoning behind the library staff considering not to remain open 24 hours each day when she sent the survey to students in April. The library collected its own data earlier in the year and noticed similar findings. A small number of students reported using the library between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m.

According to Sohn, Axinn may also remain open for 24 hours each night during finals week.

"The SGA is also currently working to have Axinn open 24/7 with key card access for finals week," Sohn wrote. "Axinn provides students access to Mac computers, classroom space, and printer access. We shouldn't rely solely on Axinn to be a substitute for students but it may help to relieve pressure on the library."

The doors of Axinn currently lock at 11 p.m., but students already in the building may remain there past this time.

Many respondents brought up additional concerns regarding the library's operations during finals week, including whether Wilson Cafe would remain open 24/7 and whether there would be MCAB stressbusters or other health and wellness activities.

Admissions Dean Talks Diversity

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"We do work hard to find a balance in our travel," Buckles said. "All of our travel includes outreach with community-based organizations, whether that is College Match in Los Angeles or Posse in any of its different locations or any of the dozens of outreach programs that we do."

"We strive to find an appropriate balance between places where we have typically had a lot of interest and applications with new places where we are trying to create new and more interest," Buckles said.

Over the past decade, more minority students have both applied to and enrolled at the college. In 2008, 1,041 applicants were students of color. In the past admissions cycle, 2,026 applicants were students of color, reflecting over an 100 percent increase. And 138 students of color enrolled at the college in 2008 compared to 204 in the past year, an over 50 percent increase.

"We are very pleased with that, but we do not see it as an end game," Buckles said. "We are not satisfied yet."

The admissions office recently joined the American Talent Initiative, which seeks to address inequities in access to higher education. This group of 290 universities and colleges, combined with philanthropic organizations, seeks to graduate 50,000 lower-income students from its member institutions by 2025.

Buckles noted that President of the college Laurie L. Patton's next major fundraising campaign will be geared towards financial aid and access. He also highlighted a change in policy this year in which the college transitioned to a need-blind process for DACA and undocumented students.

"We have gone from low single digits to dozens of admitted DACA and undocumented students this year," Buckles said. "It has been an amazing increase."

Within the admissions office itself, Buckles noted a commitment to diversity through diverse staffing, fluency in several languages, and further partnership and affiliation with organizations such as Posse.

"We strive, per the strategic plan and what we see as our mission as an educational institution, to create as accessible and inclusive a student body and community as possible," he said.

Library Declines to Gather Your Data

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brary functions as exactly the opposite of Bentham's panopticon, Roy said.

"The culture, the tradition of librarianship is all about patron privacy and freedom of expression, freedom of inquiry," he said. "It's the place where you can go to bump up against new ideas and difficult ideas, and it's a place where you can do that in private. There's nobody watching you, there's nobody checking on what you're reading."

If Bentham were alive today, he would probably say the building most like a true panopticon is Old Chapel, the center of administrative power whose cupola offers a 360-degree view of campus that is live-streamed online.

So why did Roy choose this 18th-century image?

"I chose it because it's a classic image of surveillance and surveillance by the state," Roy said. And since Middlebury is an institution making choices about data privacy, he said, "We stand in for the state."

According to the college handbook, Middlebury gathers institutional datasets on its people and programs. These datasets include financial, academic and health data on students; employment data on faculty; and philanthropic data on alumni and donors. Each dataset used by someone at Middlebury — by staff, by agents of Middlebury, or even by third parties who were granted access by the college — is overseen by a "data steward," usually a department head.

These stewards determine how data are stored and accessed, and classify them as either public, internal or restricted. For restricted data, stewards are required to conduct regular security audits. Personal information like address, date of birth, Social Security Number, address, grades and transcripts are classed as restricted data.

Anyone who connects to the Middlebury wireless network is subject to routine surveillance. IT staff monitor server logs for malicious activity. In most circumstances, the information is confidential and not used to monitor individual activity.

But data acquired from network monitoring can be turned over to college officials and law enforcement in the event of an investigation. Access to that electronic information has to be authorized beforehand by a senior administrator. Only one of six people in President Patton's cabinet can make this data request.

Roy said that some larger universities use institutional data to track student behavior.

"They will collect information about your movement around campus, through your ID card, your activity at the gym, your activity at the dining hall, coming into the library, using the course management system, using the course reserves. And if you have a large enough population, you can actually start to see trends."

"There's obviously this creepy Orwellian dimension to it," Roy said. "We don't, to my knowledge, have any interest in building such a system here."

In Roy's view, Middlebury has sufficient safeguards against that kind of data analysis.

"There's a sense that there are stewards of particular records and that if you want access to those records you have to explain why you want access, what you're going to do with it, how you're going to protect it," Roy said. "I definitely get a sense that there's, broadly speaking, good governance about the use of data, therefore protecting against the misuse of it."

In his memo, Roy said the policy aligned with Middlebury's emphasis on "critical digital fluency," which is aimed at understanding the role of technology in shaping daily life. As part of that, Roy said people on campus need to create norms about privacy and data, and think critically about what technologies they choose and how to configure them.

"We need to be clear with our community about what data we are collecting, how we are protecting it, who has access to it and how it is being used," Roy said.

Students Defend Decision to Fund Event with Think Tank Money

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Rubinstein said he was not opposed to accepting funding from the IHS for future events.

"We do not discriminate against any potential sponsors on the basis of their politics," Rubinstein said. "If our conditions for student control were met, we'd accept funding from a foundation with George Soros on the board. In the same vein we'd accept further funding without strings from a foundation with Charles Koch on its board."

Last spring, following national press about free speech on college campuses, students established an organization called the Open Campus Initiative at Harvard University. Harvard's OCI's mission statement reads: "We believe that a liberal arts education benefits from ideological diversity and we aim to offer that ideological diversity for the student body."

The Harvard OCI brought Jordan Peterson, a University of Toronto psychology professor who speaks out against non-binary gender and refuses to use pronouns other than "he" and "she," to their campus in April 2017. The Harvard OCI invited Charles Murray to speak the following September.

While the Harvard and Middlebury groups bear the same name and similar purposes, Rubinstein said, "The Middlebury Open Campus Initiative is an entirely independent organization and has no connections to clubs at other colleges or universities."

When the OCI applied to be a student organization in the fall, the Student Organization Oversight Committee (SOOC) rejected their application due to lack of organization, according to Trisha Singh '18, committee chair of the SOOC.

Singh said that members were also concerned about how the organization would ensure it represented a diverse array of viewpoints.

"The committee was concerned with the potential of the club's membership to be comprised only of people with the same viewpoints," the official statement specified.

"The OCI lists 'encouraging and seeking viewpoint diversity' and 'encouraging reasonable, free, and civil discussion across differences of opinion' as a part of its purpose on its constitution," Singh said. "When asked about how they would ensure the viewpoint diversity and differences of opinion at their meetings and events, they did not seem to consider it as a priority and did not give a convincing answer."

According to Rubinstein, the OCI has members who are Republicans, Democrats and Independents.

"The OCI is strictly non-partisan and committed to welcoming any interested community member," added Zieve-Cohen. However, he also described himself and Rubinstein as sharing only mildly differing political beliefs.

Despite the initial concerns, the SOOC approved the group with reservations during winter term. The group's student organization status is guaranteed for a year. At the end of this period it will undergo a review during which the status can be either revoked or renewed.

Singh clarified the committee's support of the group.

"The SOOC fully supports OCI's goals and mission and its decisions so far have only been based on logistical concerns about whether the leadership is well organized and whether they will fulfill the goals listed in their constitution," Singh said.

The talk was also sponsored by Ross Commons and the Political Science department, in addition to the IHS, though the Political Science department did not provide any funds for the event.

Chair of the political science department Bertram Johnson said that the department's decision to sponsor the talk was an easy one, as the topic of the lecture, free speech, pertained to interests of the department and the department was not providing funding for the talk.

Johnson also said that he views the department's role as sponsor as a chance to support dialogue in general.

"I see our role as not being the place where dialogue gets shut down," Johnson said.

Political science professor Keegan Callanan serves as the OCI's faculty advisor. Callanan did not comment on the organization's choice of funding or mission when contacted by The Campus.

The group does not currently have more events planned, but hopes to hold more lectures and discussions in the future.

Team of Students Races to Zero... and Wins

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Department of Energy jury at the National Renewable Energy Lab on April 22. The college's team won the contest while competing against schools with graduate architecture and engineering programs.

"Our team's victory was a testament to the value of a liberal arts education," said Browne, who was responsible for making sure Middlebury's elementary school design was up to code. He noticed that some other teams' plans were not.

Browne said his experience as a volunteer firefighter made him especially conscious of fire safety and building code compliance. He also said the team's attention to detail meant all aspects of the final design were carefully thought out, which some other teams lacked.

Many members of the Middlebury team cited the importance of their holistic approach. The group began by studying existing Zero Energy schools before meeting with the principal of Mary Hogan Elementary, Tom Buzzel, to better understand the elementary school's specific needs.

"Then as a class we decided on key pieces we wanted to include in our design and what the most important components were," Berzolla said.

"In our early stages, our team spent what seemed to be an unreasonable number of hours arguing about every detail; from the number of faucets in a bathroom all the way up to recent changes in elementary school pedagogy," Browne said.

Berzolla said the team spent two months refining the floor plans because every decision was intentionally chosen to create the best learning environment possible.

Later on, the team broke into smaller working groups that focused on specific categories including architecture, interior design and HVAC systems. Berzolla said that with every design choice, the group weighed cost, energy-efficiency and the design goals.

"We had to dive into a very detailed analysis of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems for the building," Berzolla said, although no team members had sufficient experience with these areas. Assistance from industry partners made the project feasible and gave the final design its depth.

Instead of modifying a standard design for the new elementary school, the college team discussed what the future of education should look like, and used those innovative concepts as the basis for their plan.

"We focused heavily on collaborative and experiential learning and our design tried to make this natural and easy," said Gigi Miller '18, a member of the interior design team. She said they aimed to create spaces that kids would be excited to come and learn in everyday.

Berzolla said this focus on the kids and creating the building as a teaching tool that students would be excited to learn in was what set them apart from other schools in the competition.

"We really tried to think about specific social factors such as different learning and teaching styles that may need to be catered to," said Emma McDonagh '19, who worked on the building's architecture. Her group redesigned the current building's convoluted layout to create more welcoming and flexible interior spaces.

The new school's location was another important factor. The team selected a space beside the current middle school because of its flexibility and its connection with the outdoors. McDonagh said that such real-world implications made the project a great learning experience.

The team plans to present their plan to the Middlebury Selectboard in May.

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Single Occupancy Restrooms Move Toward "Gender Free"

By MARIA KAOURIS
Staff Writer

MONTPELIER — In recent years, a movement towards inclusivity has begun the refamig of binaries regarding gender and sex to longer be based on those assigned at birth. The proliferation of these evolving ideas has turned the heads of scientists, lawmakers and others as they grapple with dismantling prior gender roles and assess the implications of these legal, medical and social changes in our society. While many institutions and governments have had difficulty accepting these advancements, certain Vermont lawmakers have acknowledged societal evolutions in order to stay abreast of social issues.

In its attempt to approve the initial H.333 bill that requires all single-occupancy bathrooms be "gender free," the Green Mountain State aims to make public restrooms more inclusive to trans and gender-nonconforming individuals. While multi-stall bathrooms will remain gendered, their private bathroom counterparts will be labeled as gender neutral in schools, hospitals, places of worship, stores, workplaces and other public spaces.

ADA

Gender neutral bathroom sign.

With support from the House, the bill is on track to be approved by the end of the current legislative session. Senator Becca Balint of Windham District, who presented the bill on the Senate floor, sees its passing as a change that would "benefit many Vermonters as they seek to meet their most basic of human needs." Balint's claim acknowledges the frustration and fear that many LGBTQ+ community members feel in their everyday lives and especially when asked to choose from a gender binary.

Jacob Tobia, national LGBTQ+ rights activist, member of the transgender community and co-producer and host for the MSNBC show Queer 2.0, sees the adoption of gender neutral bathrooms as one that benefits the community and dissolves fears of physical or verbal violence. In the TIME Magazine article, "Why All Bathrooms Should Be Gender-Neutral," Tobia writes, "Allowing trans students to 'use the restroom that feels most comfortable to them' assumes that a comfortable option exists in the first place." Vermont officials' support of gender-neutral bathrooms caters to Tobia's call for the dissolution of traditional gender binaries with the goal of creating more comfortable and safer accommodations.

Senator Balint, the Vermont Senate's Majority Leader, reinforced this bill with another avenue of persuasion. Rather than solely encouraging it in association with gender-nonconforming individuals, she extended the benefits of the bill to caregivers. Instead of caregivers forced into deciding which bathroom to use based on the sexual identification of the child or disabled person they are assisting in the restroom, they can use a gender-free private restroom without anxiety. Furthermore, Senator Balint argues that the creation of gender-neutral restrooms increases restroom accessibility for men and women waiting on long lines.

This bill would become official legislation on July 1 if approved by the Legislature and Governor Phil Scott. Currently, it must be reconsidered by the

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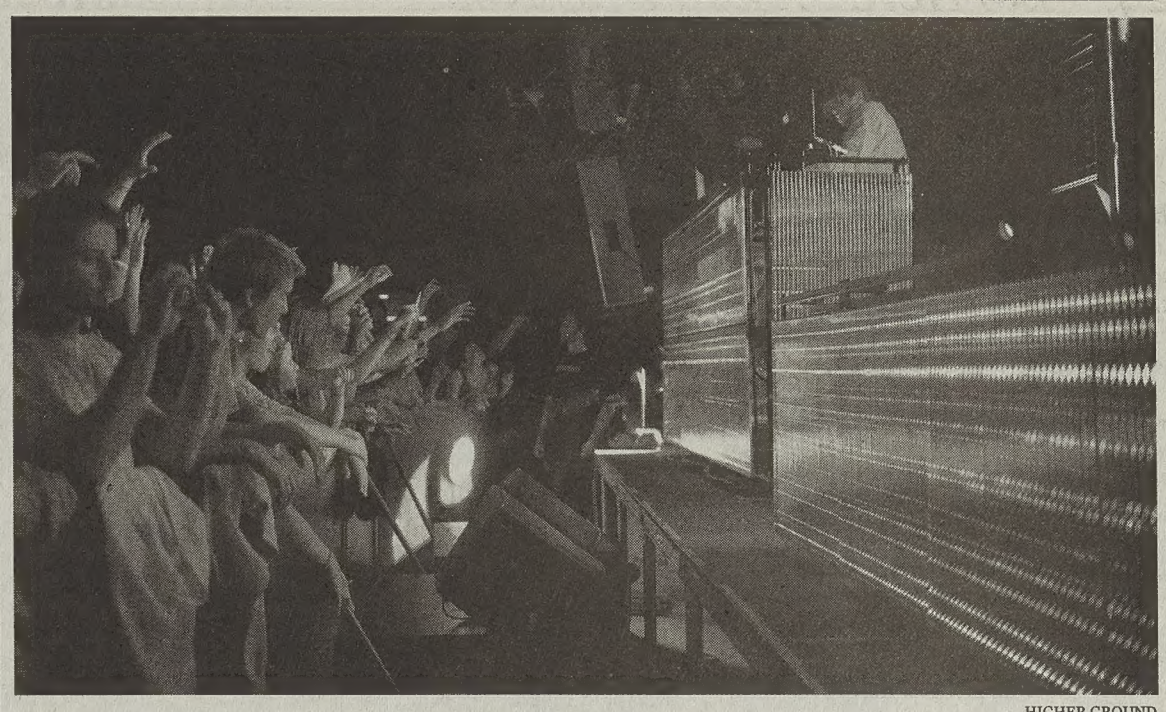


HIGHER GROUND

Fans lean in at a concert in Higher Ground's larger venue, the Ballroom.

Happy 20th, Higher Ground!

By ELIZABETH SRULEVICH
Contributing Writer

BURLINGTON - This past month, South Burlington's foremost music venue, Higher Ground, celebrated twenty years of successful operation. The establishment's prosperity rests on a drive for constant improvement, and its transformative history and lasting impact on the community, including on Middlebury College, embodies this very ambition.

Higher Ground's conception came out of frustration. One of the founders and a current co-owner, Alex Crothers, had just graduated from the University of Vermont and wanted to create a space for people of all ages to enjoy live music. The other venues in the area served the 21-and-up crowd almost exclusively. Inspired, Crothers enlisted the help of his friend from school, Rob Hintze, to further his vision.

The two began hunting for spaces, when their real estate agent introduced them to Kevin Statesir and his partner, Matt Sutte, both of whom were looking to start a similar project. Soon after, the four partners came together and bought what was once a Denny's in Winooski, turning it into the first iteration of Higher Ground.

Through occasional performances by Phish, whose guitarist's brother-in-law is Statesir, the venue gained traction. After six years, a growing base of patrons and a steady stream of national and local acts led to the establishment's complete reinvention. Higher Ground moved to where it still stands today— in a former movie theater in South Burlington.

The facility boasts the Ballroom, which has a holding capacity of 750 people, and the Showcase Lounge, which has room for 300 others. Along with three bars, Higher Ground can host up to 3,000 people for its outdoors concerts in the warmer months. But the changes haven't stopped there.

Hintze, Statesir and Sutte have all left Higher Ground amicably, leaving Crothers as Higher Ground's only original partner still in control. About five years ago, Vermont entrepreneur Alan Newman began working alongside Crothers. To commemorate two decades of growth, Crothers and Newman oversaw the installation of a new sound system in the Ballroom and an updated sound system in the Showcase Lounge. Additionally, Crothers hopes to further expand the facility to accommodate more people; this dream is stalled indefinitely, however, due to logistical obstacles.

While the physical appearance of Higher Ground stays in flux, the venue continues to book recognizable names to attract crowds. Fleet Foxes, Sylvan Esso and Jason Mraz are scheduled to make appearances within the coming months. These industry giants are balanced out with local acts, such as Madaila and Steady Betty, who performed for Higher Ground's twentieth anniversary.

JAZZ IS PHISH

JAZZ IS PHISH performed last April at Higher Ground.

Higher Ground's impact on the community is widespread. Vermont native and current Middlebury College first-year, Galen von Wodtke, described his experiences at the venue. "You go there and see people a lot of people you know. And it's a huge space, but it still feels really intimate. It just brings the community together in a way, and it offers a lot of diverse types of shows for a diverse crowd, which isn't common in Vermont," said von Wodtke.

Those new to Vermont, like first-year Rayn Bumstead, also feel Higher Ground's influence. "Higher Ground gives you a unique experience. You see a show that would sell out a big arena otherwise, but you get to see it in a smaller setting and be a part of a crowd that seems to really enjoy the music," said Bumstead. "Everyone there is just in it for the music."

Though Higher Ground is located about forty-five minutes away from Middlebury, this doesn't stop students from seeking out the venue - especially because of the all-ages policy. This gives students at Middlebury, and students everywhere in Vermont, the opportunity to attend quality shows at a good price re-

Continued on A4

Green Mountains Welcome its First Bike Share

By STEFAN ASAMOAH
Contributing Writer

BURLINGTON — Vermont and its varying terrain, hail as a place where cycling dominates the eclectic options of recreational activities. As summer months approach, the enchantment of warmer weather attracts cyclers who were reluctantly on hiatus. These cyclers will find some comfort in knowing that just a few weeks ago, Greenride Bike Share was established as the first bikeshare program within the state.

For those unfamiliar with cycling culture, a bike share program is a service where bikes are essentially rented and shared amongst the public for a fee. According to Greenride's website, most of the bike shares are used for a short distance, and commonly last about 15-20 minutes. To operate the bikeshare program, users download the SoBi mobile application Greenride and enter the code received on the the bike's system. When users sign up, they will be given a 6-digit account number and 4-digit pin code. Users can simply walk up to a bike, enter the code and PIN on the GPS into the keypad on the back of bike, unlock and begin riding. When they're done, they can return and lock the bike at any designated Greenride Bike Share hub. The bike then becomes available for others to use.

This program is the first of its kind and will continue to go through a series of expansions over the next few weeks and months. Currently, the bike share program is in what its creators consider to be its "first phase" of development.

"The first phase of the program costs about $200,000 annually," said Sandy Thibault of the Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association. "That total covers the cost of the bikes, which are leased from the Gotcha Group (a South Carolina company)."

"Bikeshare has been a missing transportation option in our region, although it has been studied and discussed over the past decade."

"Ben & Jerry's and Seventh Generation are providing the majority of funding through sponsorships. Corporate sponsors will cover 50 percent of the program costs," Thibault explained. "Institutions, such as Champlain College and the University of Vermont Medical Center, will fund about 20 percent, while cities and towns, including Burlington, will pay the remaining 30 percent."

The program's website also lists plans for a second phase, which includes increasing the number of bikes available, as well as expanding its available locations to include South Burlington, Winooski, Colchester, Williston, Shelburne and Essex. When asked if there were any plans for the program to extend to the Middlebury community, Thibault responded, "Once we get a good year of experience with our Greenride case study, we should be able to discuss with other communities."

"Bikeshare has been a missing transportation option in our region, although it has been studied and discussed over the past decade through municipal planning efforts and general community," Thibault said of the motivation for developing the bikeshare program. "With bikeshare noted as a needed infrastructure component in Plan BTV and Walk/Bike Plan BTV, as well as in the CCRPC Active Transportation Plan, the University of Vermont and Champlain College's Active Transportation Plans, our project team came together and committed to make the desire of bikeshare a reality."

Thibault described the goal of the project as "providing a high quality, convenient and affordable transportation option to everyone."

As of the end of April, Thibault noted, the bikeshare program had signed up its 200th member, and has succeeded in reducing 808.43 lbs of CO_2, burning 36,671 calories and clocking 916 miles traveled. As people increasingly move away from conventional forms of transportation, the GreenRide Bike Share program is not only a viable transportation alternative, but a significantly eco-friendly one at that.

CSWD

Community members participate in Vermont's "Green Up Day".

Local Masseuse Arrested on Voyeurism Charge

Continued from Page A1

The student said that the punishment Schmidt would receive if found guilty seemed insufficient.

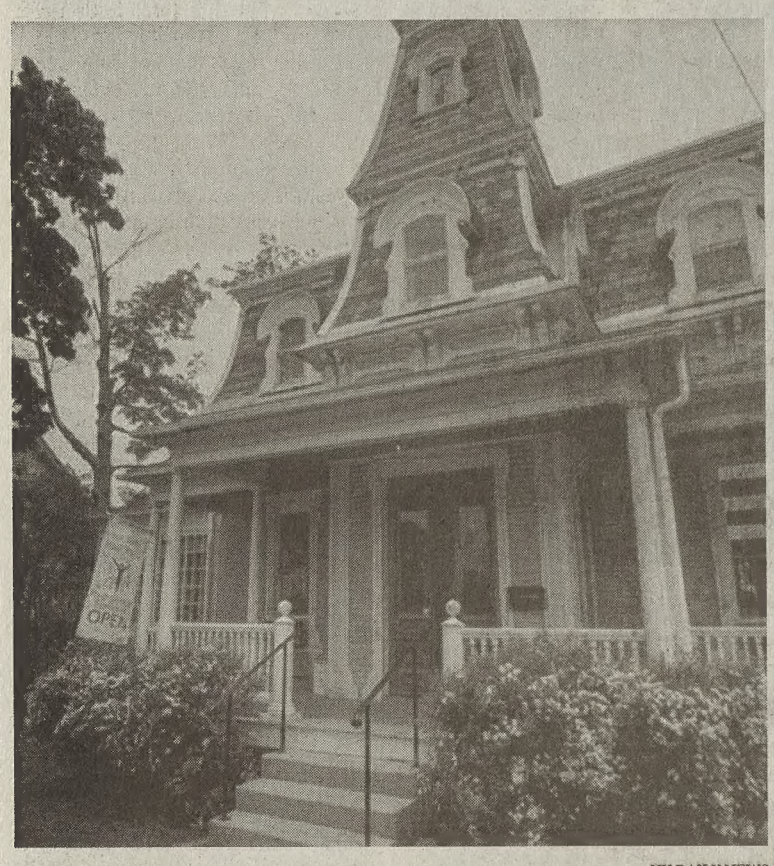
"White men in particular see how weak the consequences are for them in cases like Brock Turner's, and while I hate to advocate for supporting this country's prison system, I do think that more severe sentences for sexual abuse might prevent men like Roger from doing what they did," the student said. "And at least for me, it would help to feel like at least justice has been served; $1,000 and two years somehow does not feel like justice to me."

Taylor advised any students who had gone to Schmidt for services to contact the police.

"The Middlebury Police Department is continuing its investigation and we encourage anyone who received a massage or other services from Roger Schmidt in 2017 or 2018 to contact Detective Kris Bowdish at 388-3191 or by email at kbowdish@middlebury-police.org," the email read.

Taylor also identified potential resources on campus for victims of Schmidt's business.

"Confidential counseling and referral services are available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week through our counseling center X 5141," she wrote. "In addition, your Commons Deans, CRDs, and, I are available to you as a resource."



NY DAILY NEWS

The masseuse's business space downtown.

Students Express Interest in State "Green Up Day"

By KENZO OKAZAKI
Staff Writer

MIDDLEBURY - Vermont has a rich history of environmental sustainability - its residents pride themselves on their deep connection to the nature in which they live. Nowhere is this commitment to environmental stewardship more apparent than in efforts like "Green Up Day," which has been a Vermont tradition for nearly 50 years.

Green Up Day, during which Vermonters volunteer to clean up the outdoors by picking up litter from roadsides, is the only statewide event of its kind in the United States. It is held the first Saturday of each May and is Vermont's largest volunteer event.

In April 1970, former Vermont Governor Deane Davis launched the first statewide Green Up Day to tackle Vermont's interstates. The state closed interstate highways from 9 am to 12 pm as volunteers cleared trash from the roadsides. Later, the event became a yearly tradition under the guidance of Vermont Green Up Inc., a nonprofit formed in 1979. Since then, Green Up Day has continued to gain participants. While only 1,000 people volunteered in 1979, today Green Up Day attracts 22,000 Vermonters in 239 towns and cities across the state; each year, volunteers clean over 13,000 miles of roadside, collecting 200 to 300 tons of trash.

Vermont Green Up Inc. distributes approximately 55,000 clean-up bags to Vermont communities annually, which may be picked up by citizens at a location determined by the town coordinator for the event. After they are filled with litter, the town coordinator arranges for the bags to be disposed of by the nonprofit. Anybody is welcome to pick up a bag and volunteer on Green Up Day.

The Middlebury community has participated in this event in the past, but there does not seem to be a great awareness of the event on the College campus.

Bennett Pienkowski '20.5, a member of the Sunday Night Environmental Group, which focuses on environmental problems and awareness on campus, noted that Green Up Day is not well known among their members.

"No one was aware of Green Up Day," Pienkowski said, after speaking about it to other members of the organization.

Other Middlebury students are similarly unfamiliar with Green Up Day. Many first and second years were asked about the event, but none of those interviewed had previously participated in the event, and many had never heard of it.

Despite this lack of awareness, those introduced to the event showed interest in participating. Pienkowski said that Green Up Day is a very interesting idea, and hoped to speak about it during the group's recent Sunday night meeting.

Brigid Connor '21, was also very excited by Green Up Day and its potential to do good for the Middlebury community.

"I look forward to seeing the positive effects that the event will have on our community!" Connor said.

Such positive responses to the event are promising considering the future growth of Green Up Day in Vermont and in other states across the country as organizations strive to protect the environment. When asked why he got involved in Green Up Day, Steve Aikenhead, an organizer for 23 years, said simply, "I didn't want to live in Verdump."

This year, bags for volunteers from Middlebury will be available at the Town Manager's Office and Library on May 5 and may be dropped off on the same day at the East Middlebury Fire Station and Department of Public works in designated trucks. Attendants will be available to assist volunteers. More information about participating can be found at the Vermont Green Up Inc. website.

CALEDONIAN RECORD

The poster winner for the 2018 student contest.

House Bill for Gender Free Bathrooms

Continued from A3

House because the Senate has made minor changes, mostly focused on plumbing protocols. Proposers of the bill emphasize that public places need not make structural changes to their bathrooms in order to comply with the bill—instead, only the signs must be changed to indicate gender-neutrality.

The passing of the House bill looks hopeful—with the House of Representatives approving an initial version of it with a vote of 123-19 and limited current opposition.

While some may view gender-neutral bathrooms as a radical step, Tobia emphasizes that colleges have widely adopted gender-free bathrooms. At Middlebury, there are 15 non-residential buildings that have gender-neutral restrooms. Middlebury posits in its statement on all-gender restrooms that, "Everyone has the right to meet their basic needs in a safe environment, without feeling threatened or intimidated... All-gender restrooms provide an opportunity for our community members to enter a restroom without being questioned or interrogated."

The push for a more inclusive environment is not just found at Middlebury. In 2016, Yale University joined the more than 150 colleges who have endorsed all-gender bathrooms and have additionally permitted transgender individuals to use their preferred name on their diploma instead of their birth name.

While it seems that institutions across the country are encouraging changes that acknowledge the challenges gender nonconforming people experience, there are still opponents who disagree with such changes. A few years ago, a proposed Indiana law attempted to criminalize entering a public restroom that differs from that person's "biological gender," which is defined by "sex at birth." The repercussions to violating this law could include a $5,000 fine and up to a year in jail. While seven other states have tried to impose similar laws in recent years, Vermont seems to be leading a progression of social change.

To opponents of the bill and gender-neutral bathrooms in gender, Brenda Churchill, a transgender resident of Bakersfield, VT, writes: "Remembering that this bill applies to everyone and hurts no one is what is most important. Vermont is a state that often has shown the rest of the United States where to go and how to get there."

Higher Ground Celebrates Anniversary

Continued from A3

gardless of whether they are of legal drinking age.

With two decades of community empowerment under its belt, Higher Ground continues to expand its reach. On May 3, Higher Ground's new show with Vermont PBS, a local public-broadcasting station, is scheduled to air for the public. The first episode focuses on a performance by a local artist, Kat Wright, at Higher Ground. The show is entitled "Bardo: A Night in the Life" and features tapings of shows paired with conversations with Ryan Miller, another local resident and host of another show that once aired on the network, "Makin' Friends with Ryan Miller."

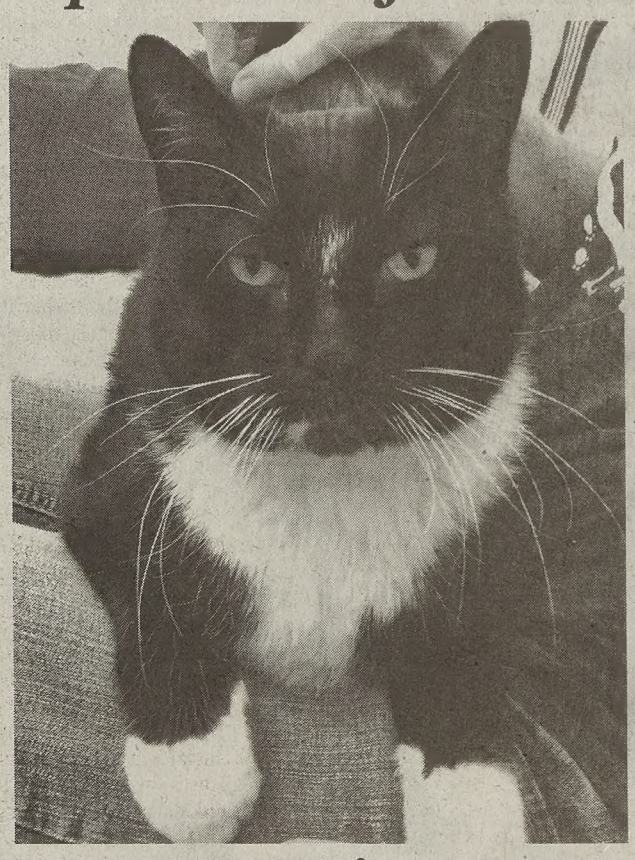
Higher Ground is a Vermont staple for both musicians and music-lovers. Statesir, who only just recently departed from Higher Ground, spoke to the Burlington Free Press about the current state of the venue.

"I'm just hoping to see it continue with the warmth and the community feeling we started out with," Statesir said. "It's time for me now, and I really feel the place is in good hands to carry on the tradition and legacy that is so important to me."

With Crothers and Newman in charge and new developments on the horizon, Higher Ground rings in its twentieth anniversary with the same momentum it's always had.

Happy birthday, Higher Ground!

Adopt our Pet of the Week!



Meet Ziggy!

While we work on getting him into the Guinness Book of World Records as "the most affectionate cat in the entire world," Ziggy is waiting patiently for a new home.

It cannot be overstated how much this handsome guy wants to love and be loved. At one of our meetings, he eagerly made his way into the laps and onto the shoulders of every staff person. He likes to be held and hugged. Ziggy does need to be the only cat in his new home and he doesn't have experience with dogs. Ziggy also didn't like the young toddler in his previous home but he did like the 5 year old. His guardians said he loved looking out the window from a perch, was very easy going, and loved to cuddle. Come meet this amazing guy today! (5 years, shorthaired tuxedo, neutered male).

For more information, contact Homeward Bound at 802-388-1100.

Summer Internships Merit Credit

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

For students, summer internships are a large source of stress. Undergraduate college students devote increasing amounts of time to procuring "impressive" internships or embarking on exciting opportunities. As this trend develops, the question arises: Should colleges and universities grant credit for summer internships? Does the educational value of an internships merit formal academic recognition? The SGA, in a bill submitted by Senator Kailash Raj Pandey on April 8, argues yes.

Many colleges recognize the educational value of the extracurricular experiences that students engage in when they pursue internships and reward the pursuit of these experiences with academic credit. Schools such as UC Berkeley, University of Michigan and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill all afford students the chance to accrue credits while working at an internship, according to their websites. At Middlebury, however, this is not the case. Although students pursue internships for academic credit during J-Term, summer internships are not eligible to receive academic credit toward the fulfillment of any requirements.

At its core, we feel that Middlebury's lack of provision of credit for summer internships runs counter to its educational mission as a liberal arts institution. At Middlebury and other liberal art colleges, a defining component of the educational mission is a belief that varied, self-motivated, worldly experience forms an essential piece of each student's liberal arts education. The Middlebury mission statement reflects this objective: "Through the pursuit of knowledge unconstrained by national or disciplinary boundaries, students who come to Middlebury learn to engage the world."

When pursued with care and intentionality, summer internships may perfectly fulfill the designation of educational experiences "unconstrained by national or disciplinary boundaries." Internship experiences are rooted in real-world work, demand reflection and self-evaluation, and provide us with educational moments that we simply cannot get while working as full-time students at Middlebury College. Regardless of whether the internship is paid or unpaid, any professional position conducted with introspection, intentionality and rigor supplements the mission statement's vision of education at Middlebury. Offering credit for internships would demonstrate that the administration recognizes their academic value.

In order to ensure the jobs they perform are worthy of receiving credit, students participating in these internships could be subjected to a check-in process similar to the one that students who receive CCI internship funding have to go through. This process calls on students to submit photos, written reflections and employer updates to the CCI in order to uphold their funding grants. Given the correct screening and check-in measures, it's entirely possible to construct a system under which internships that are pursued with care and rigor are granted appropriate academic credit.

Beyond Middlebury's educational mission, we see a number of other reasons that summer internship experience should be able to count toward a student's academic credits. For one, many companies and businesses that offer so-called "unpaid internships" will not allow students to take unpaid positions unless they are earning academic credit for the work they perform (usually for legal reasons). Granting academic credit for internships would allow students to take positions that would otherwise have been unavailable to them by virtue of the college's current policy.

Furthermore, providing academic credit for summer positions would aid many students who might wish to graduate early from Middlebury for financial reasons. Rather than taking on five-class semesters or taking summer classes at other schools, these students would be able to accumulate credits for meaningful experiences earned during summers in working toward graduating on their own schedule.

The internship process for international students, however, is entirely different. When applying to study in the United States, prospective students must obtain an F-1 visa. This visa is a non-immigrant visa; those who hope to study in the United States must have official residence in their home country and intend to return back to their country of citizenship. The purpose of this visa is to educate the student and then allow them to bring this newfound education back to their country of origin, not the United States.

When applying for internships in the US, F-1 students can apply for Optional Practical Training, which is temporary employment directly related to an F-1 student's major area of study. Eligible students can apply to receive up to 12 months of OPT employment authorization before completing their academic studies (pre-completion) and/or after completing their academic studies (post-completion).

In order to use OPT effectively, an international student must carefully ration out their time in the United States; each student is limited to only 12 months of this form of authorization at each degree level, so the use of it prior to graduation significantly affects these students' future options in the United States. As stated in senator Pandey's bill, an international student must pay a $410 filing fee each time they want to engage in an off-campus internship experience that is not for academic credit. This significantly limits who is able to apply for internships; an international student may have to turn down the same opportunity that a U.S. peer student is able to accept and benefit from.

If this bill is passed, international students will be afforded the same opportunities as their American peers. As a board we endorse the idea of this bill; international students should be able to receive academic credit for internships without having to jump through hoops to do so.

That said, there are a number of technical questions that must be answered if the college is to take this step: How many credits might a single internship count for? What exactly would an effective screening process look like in order to ensure a position's validity? How should communication between the college and employers factor into the process? While these details must eventually be worked out, we call upon the college to first recognize that, on an ideological level, granting academic credit for internship aligns with the mission statement of this institution.

For many faculty and staff, the prospect of granting students academic credit for experiences undertaken away from lecture halls and discussion circles will no doubt seem like a drastic step, as it contradicts many conceptions of what it means to be a traditional college student.

But from an ideological standpoint, granting credit for these positions aligns with what it means to be a college student today, in a world where experience is deemed to be of the utmost value for students entering the workforce. It also aligns with what it means to be a student at a liberal arts institution, where these experiences are valued as components of each student's personal education.

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The Abusive Nature of Financial Aid

By ANDREW SEBALD & TRAVIS WAYNE SANDERSON

CW: Domestic Abuse

Andrew Sebald:

I have one older half-sister, one younger sister, a mother and an abusive father. My mother is an alumna of Middlebury, which is what spurred my interest in Middlebury College.

When I was 14 years old, my mom and dad divorced. The separation was violent. My father had always shown abusive tendencies throughout my life, but his anger had intensified significantly the few months before. He started to physically abuse my mother and older sister, and verbally abused me when I even considered challenging his authoritarian control over my family. On the night before the separation, he called the cops on my mom. She had hidden his eleven guns somewhere in fear that he might transition from fists to bullets.

The police strongly encouraged my father to leave that night. For the sake of wanting to maintain our relationship, I tried my best throughout high school to make inroads with my father. All efforts were unsuccessful, but he still lingered in my family's life. My mom has testified numerous times in court to prevent him from returning with his abuse and guns. He remains in our lives till this day, and I know he probably will be until my own death.

Middlebury Student Financial Services is complicit in that.

My background, although it may not seem to have much to do with my financial situation, provides necessary information for what later unfolded. By the time I applied for Middlebury my senior year of high school, I had not communicated with or seen my father for the better part of a year. I applied Early Decision 1 for Middlebury. My mom and I absolutely trusted that Student Financial Services (SFS) would grant us sufficient financial aid. There is a "need-blind policy," after all. After I found out about my acceptance, my mother and I were ecstatic. We truly believed that we would qualify for the non-custodial waiver form for the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile.

A crucial part of the CSS Profile for any Middlebury student with divorced parents lies in the non-custodial waiver. When Middlebury SFS assesses the financial information for all students, they assess the income of both parents or guardians partly through the CSS Profile. If you have a non-custodial parent who is not in contact with you, getting them to fill out their part of the profile obviously becomes an issue. The non-custodial waiver's purpose is to waive the non-custodial parent's information from the CSS Profile, so that only the custodial parent's financial information will be assessed. There are conditions, including: more than ten years have to have passed since the student has been in contact with their non-custodial parent. Since my father had abused my family in the last ten years, we didn't qualify.

We filled out the waiver. We were devastated upon receiving a negative response. Student Financial Services contacted my mom and said that if my father didn't fill out his part of the CSS Profile, I would not be eligible for financial aid, and therefore effectively enrollment at Middlebury for the 2015–2016 academic year. My mom desperately tried to explain to Student Financial Services that my father was not who he seemed to be. Providing court-ordered evidence, my mother informed SFS by email that "since [2012], my ex-husband has not been allowed to have further contact with the children. I do not know what other kind of documentation you need to consider me a single-parent."

Student Financial Services ignored us. In an email dated Nov. 18, 2014, my mother offered to provide the 911 call record from when my father called the police on her, along with other reports made by therapists and a parent coordinator, to illustrate my father's abusive nature. SFS never replied.

Instead, they asked to contact my father directly. My father stated he would "do his part" in paying the college for my tuition on the condition that I would meet with him to discuss my college plans with him. In an email dated Dec. 16, 2014, Student Financial Services instructed me to meet with my father and convince him to fill out his part of my CSS Profile. They apparently believed he had the best of intentions.

Due to binding Early Decision, I had no choice but to accept and meet with my father. We talked. The conversation was in public, so thankfully nothing happened. Still, he did not fill out the form until the day after he received news that I had seen a psychiatrist due to severe anxiety and depression arising from the uncertainty of whether or not I would be enrolled at Middlebury College.

Finally, we got our financial aid. My father had signed his name, so I could finally start at the school of my dreams. That was enough. After being forced to meet with him, attend follow-up counseling sessions, and tolerate anxiety-inducing waiting, my mom and I were glad that the process was done. But since we had not qualified for the non-custodial waiver, since I had been in contact with him during the "last ten years," my mother would have to cover the family contribution burden for both her and my father's incomes out of her one salary. She makes much less than my father.

My father, to this day, does not contribute a cent.

During the summer after freshman year, my mom informed me that I would have to take a semester off. Paying for the equivalent of two people had severely affected our financial situation. My mom and I called and emailed SFS. We urged them to revise our award substantially, so I could afford to continue attending Middlebury.

SFS wouldn't budge. Even though my counselor, court-ordered family counselor, and our parent coordinator all showed evidence that my father was not fit to be a custodial parent, Student Financial Services simply said, "Unfortunately, we are not able to change our decision as your father's information must be included in our decision for you" in an email dated July 6, 2016. They recommended I talk to my commons dean about taking a semester off.

In J-term 2017, we implored Student Financial Services again. My mom sent a letter to the dean of students at the time, Katy Smith Abbott, who was sympathetic to my situation. She met with me, and later contacted SFS's Kim Downs-Burns to talk about my circumstances. I talked with Downs-Burns, and explained how significantly SFS making me go to meet my father had impacted both me and my family. I left the office feeling optimistic about the conversation. Maybe the situation would finally be resolved. But when I got our second financial aid revision back, we still were unable to afford the semester. The financial aid was not enough. To this day, I still don't know why.

Thus, I was forced to take a "gap semester" from Middlebury in fall 2017.

In the end, none of our efforts made any difference. Repeated calls, emails and meetings, and yet we were back to square one. We had talked to the dean of students, a representative of the administration, and yet still ended with the same result of insufficient financial aid due to the refusal of SFS to consider my family's special circumstance. The despair made me remember what a Student Financial Services employee had told us over the phone. I asked, "If my mom went to court with my father and proved that he was not paying child support, would financial services change my financial aid?"

The employee: "We don't assess financial aid based on who's paying for tuition, but the ability that both parents have to pay tuition."

I would hear that same sentence countless times in the future.

Travis Wayne Sanderson:

The same sentence was said multiple times in Community Council, as well.

In early April 2017, Andrew approached me about his story. I urged him to present his case to Community Council (CC). The Council is the only real conversation body on campus that combines all constituencies — students, staff and faculty — and can summon staff members to report on their policies and activities in various departments on campus. We could get to the bottom of the issue. As Co-Chairs that semester, Katy Smith Abbott and I arranged times for both SFS and Andrew to speak to the Council.

On April 11, SFS's Kim Downs-Burns and Michael McLaughlin were asked to come to Community Council to answer questions. They emphasized at three separate times that financial aid was assessed based on "ability to pay" and not "willingness to pay." When asked why, the answer was always some variation of "it's what our peer schools do."

According to CC minutes, SFS said that each student's financial aid case is looked at "individually," each case taken into account as a "whole picture," accounting for the "complexity in family situations accordingly." Exceptions can be made, in theory, to stringent policies in the case of — for example — abusive parents. This was stated at 5:02 p.m. (just to be precise), April 11, and is on public record.

Their words are completely at odds with how they treated Andrew's case.

On April 18, Andrew explained the above story to Community Council. On April 25, Maleka Stewart '19 and Charles Rainey '19 presented a recommendation on the matter of Student Financial Services and the non-custodial waiver. They recognized one of the main issues as the ten-year requirement, which Stewart described as "obscure and unattainable."

SFS became defensive. On May 2, Katy Smith Abbott reported conversation she had had that week with Kim Downs-Burns to Community Council. According to that meeting's minutes, Middlebury's standards for financial aid consideration are mandated by its membership in the 568 Group consortium of "need-blind" institutions.

They reported that if willingness to pay is the rule, then anyone can take advantage of the system to get better financial aid. However, if SFS is indeed capable of accounting for the "complexity in family situations accordingly," they can certainly distinguish between legitimate and illegitimate claims.

According to the minutes, SFS also informed Katy Smith Abbott that "[SFS's] policies don't need to be fixed."

The 2016–2017 Community Council ended the year without passing the recommendation. We were prevented from action by a combination of time constraints and bylaws confusion. We officially asked the fall 2017 Community Council to review Middlebury's financial aid policies, particularly the non-custodial waiver form, when the new semester began. Kyle Wright, the fall 2017 co-chair, agreed verbally to take up the case on May 8, 2017.

However, when fall came around, the council apparently had other priorities. According to CC minutes from Oct. 16, 2017, Co-Chair Wright only mentioned the issue in the context of reforming Community Council's own bylaws. The non-custodial waiver problem itself was left unsolved, and SFS's questionable policy and policy enforcement unpursued.

I prompted co-chair Baishakhi Taylor and co-chair Tina Brook '18 to return to the case as co-chair Brook entered her position in J-Term 2018. Co-chair Taylor responded to me in an email dated Feb. 5, 2018, that she "understood Kim Downs-Burns addressed [the issue] when she came to CC last Spring and had a detailed conversation about it." Co-chair Brook did not reply at all. It is quite possible that they had not read the minutes from spring 2017 that quite clearly illustrated the conversation remained unfinished.

In any case, Community Council also dropped the ball.

Andrew Sebald:

I felt manipulated and lied to by Middlebury's Student Financial Services. As I stated before, both my mother and I did as much as we could to prove that my father was someone who was not interested in paying for my education, but for almost two years they seemed to brush our questions and qualms aside as if meaningless. Two years is an excruciating amount of time necessary in order to schedule and have a 30-minute appointment with the right person to tell them that the financial aid plan you have been given is thousands of dollars more than you can afford. Policy — which, as Travis noted, is questionably followed — was enough to force me to speak to my abusive father and continue to drain my family and my capacity to continue at Middlebury College.

This article is specifically a critique of the policies of Student Financial Services and how they are being enforced. It is also a critique of the actions of bodies complicit in the continued existence of this problem, like the 2017–2018 Community Council, which failed to take up the issue again until very recently. We hope that the Council follows through with the recommendation they are currently discussing, and returns to supporting students with non-custodial parents on financial aid more actively. The policy has a large impact on the lives of several students here on campus, and the problem cannot continue to remain unspoken within the sunken pockets of Middlebury College students and their parents.

We ask that Middlebury re-consider how it evaluates non-custodial waiver form requests. If "willingness to pay" is not an acceptable rubric, then we ask Student Financial Services to actually follow through on their policy to take the "whole picture" of a student's complex family situation into account when approving non-custodial waiver forms. Since SFS already claims to do this, as they stated in Community Council, following through should not be an issue.

Secondly, we ask that Student Financial Services look into renegotiating the requirement that non-custodial parents and students not be in contact for ten years to qualify for the waiver. SFS — as well as the 568 Group generally — need to reform financial aid policies that have been put in place before to better suit the needs for students like me at their schools or they need to stop lying about successfully supporting a "need-blind" policy.

Finally, we ask Student Financial Services to reevaluate how they treat student financial aid cases. Instead of treating cases like mine as they do, they could make an active effort to maintain a good relationship with students with non-custodial parents on financial aid at Middlebury. The process is opaque, inaccessible, and decides like a divine force the entire college experience of many students on campus. I applied to this school thinking that our financial aid would be fair based on our circumstances. I applied to this school feeling that my mom would not have to take out loan after loan in order for me to attend here. Frankly, if I had known what was to come, I highly doubt I would have applied to Middlebury College.

Divides and Deliberation: A Report and Invitation

By JIN SOHN and SARAH STROUP

Last spring, the Middlebury community became deeply divided over a campus visit by Charles Murray. We each felt these divides personally — Sarah Stroup is a member of the political science department, and Jin plays a leading role in student government. Our campus is not alone in struggling to construct open and inclusive dialogue, but the stakes have felt particularly high in our small rural community. The intimacy of our small environment does not guarantee that we connect with one another or engage in productive disagreements.

Student concerns about isolation, fragmentation and community are high. Last May, Stroup surveyed 50 students in her political science classes. Two-thirds of the respondents said their level of concern about the events surrounding Murray's visit was still high or very high. Half the students reported that their biggest concern moving forward was community, closely followed by listening and inclusion. This heightened attention to community has continued through this year. Hundreds of students, staff and faculty came to a November conversation in Mead Chapel, and Wilson Hall was packed for a February faculty panel on white supremacy on campus. Meanwhile, according to research by professor of psychology Robert Moeller and his colleagues, students that feel most isolated have reported higher stress levels.

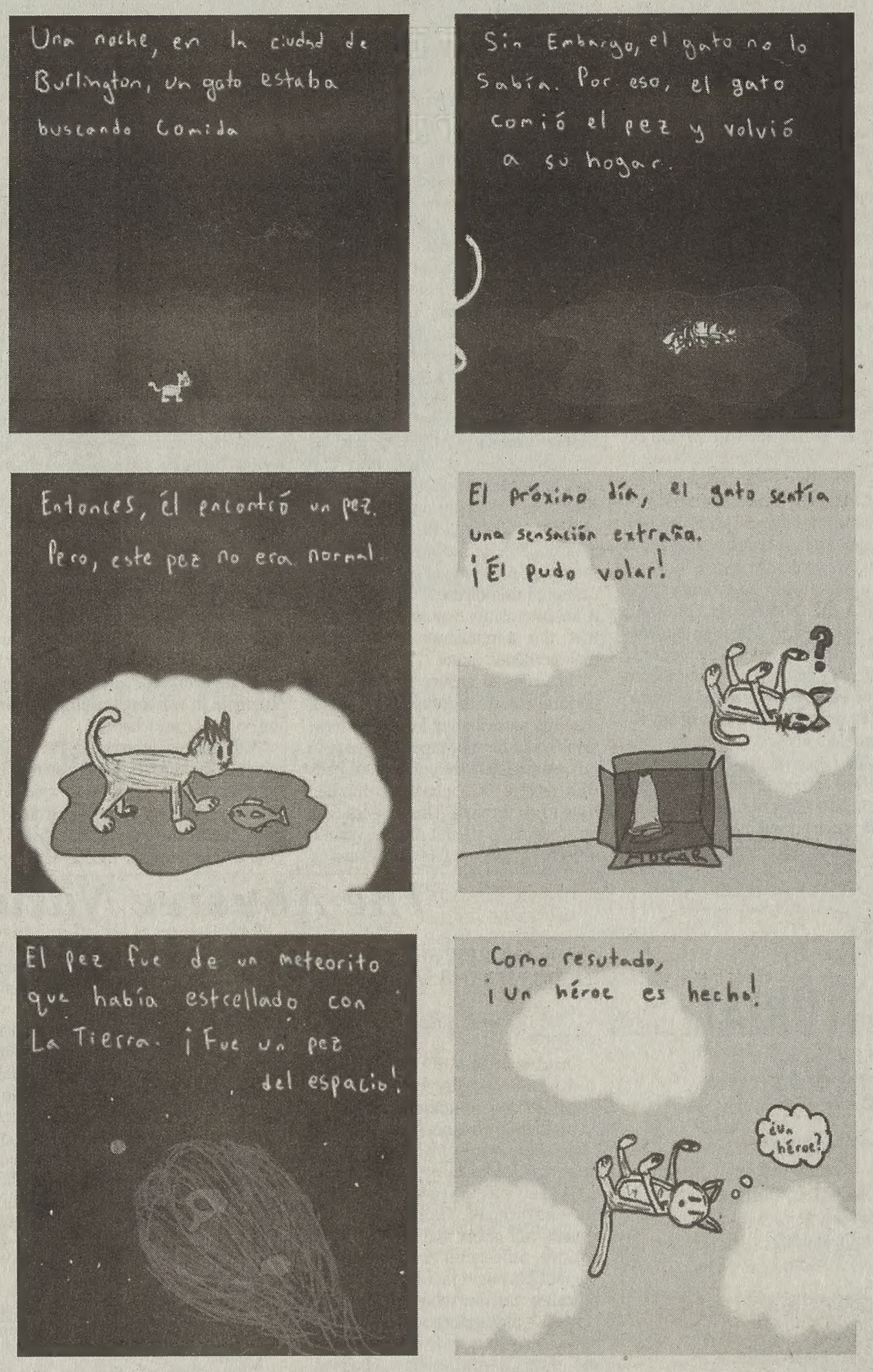
In an attempt to address these divides, we designed a series of "deliberation cafés" to host this past year. We drew inspiration from a variety of models, including the world café method and the civil conversations project. (See go/deliberation for more details.) The cafés have met three times a semester for roughly 90 minutes each. We provide food, introduce the topic and a set of ground rules for engagement, and then facilitate small-group discussions. We secured funding from the Middlebury Fund for Innovation (FFI) and included regular feedback mechanisms (follow-up surveys, focus group discussions) to improve the design of the cafés over time. The topics have included the role of religion on campus, tolerating the intolerant, the effect of social media on community and the relationship between freedom and inclusion.

The cafés are a small step towards reclaiming a climate in which students and faculty can explore new arguments, trusting that we may not share the same ideas but do share a commitment to making our ideas stronger. By working alongside many other great efforts on campus, these cafés aimed to shift the perspective from speaking to careful listening. If you are interested in continuing these cafés next year, please reach out to sstroup@middlebury.edu.

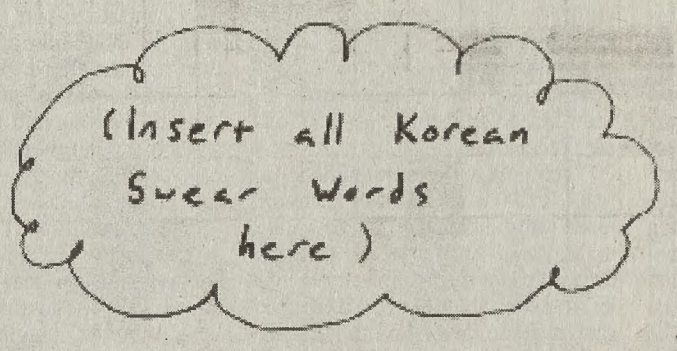
To finish the year, our last event is for seniors only: we invite you to a final café (and happy hour!) on Friday, May 11, at 5 p.m. at Kirk Alumni Center. This is a "plus-one" event — invite a faculty or staff member that you admire to join us (and please RSVP at go/plusonedialogues). The topic: how will you describe Middlebury to others once you leave this place? For those of us who aren't leaving in May, this question might help us reflect on the community that we currently have — and the community that we want to build. Our conversations this year have been surprising and challenging, but have helped us better understand the many people that make up the Middlebury community.

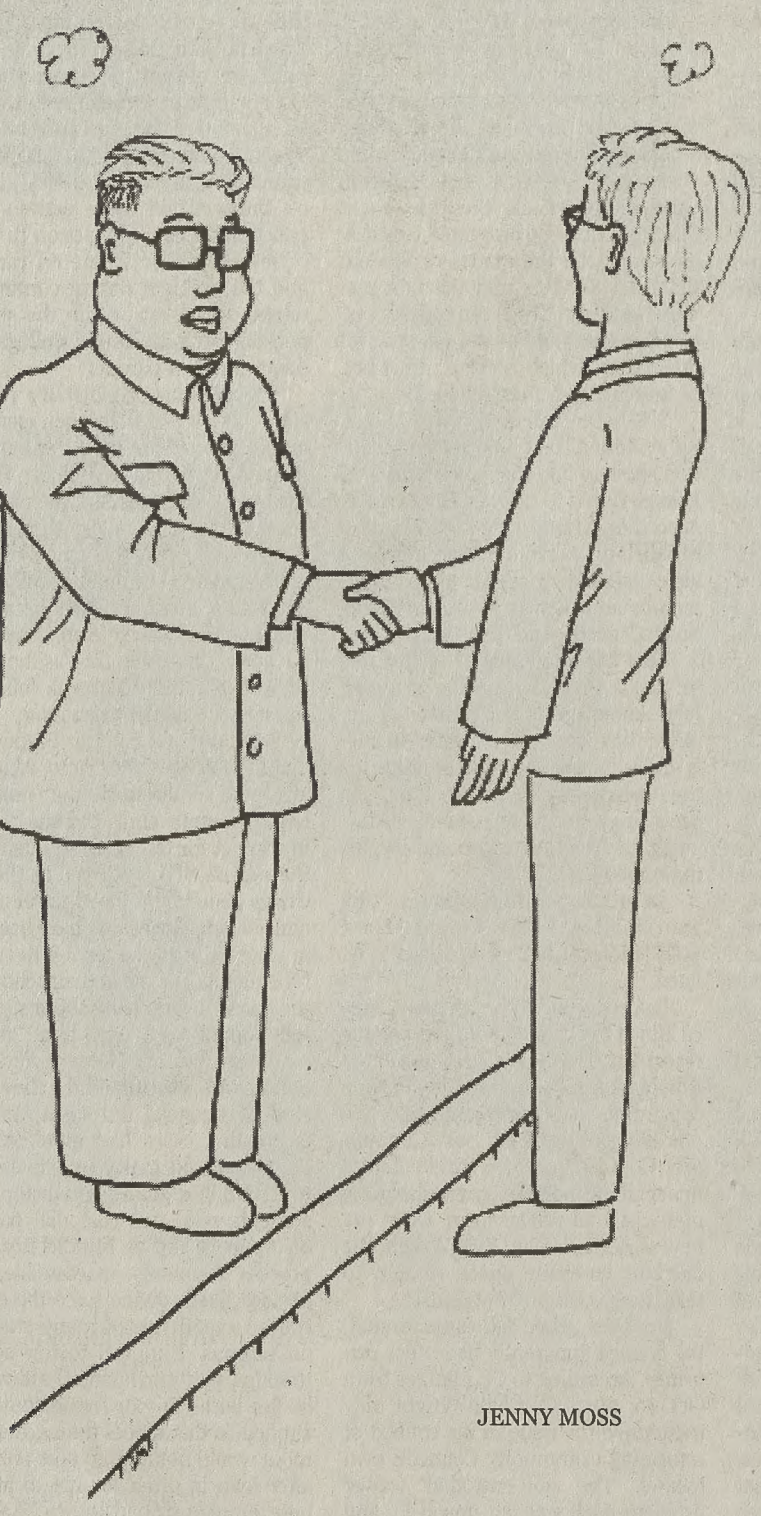
Jin Sohn '18 is president of the Student Government Association.

Sarah Stroup is a professor of Political Science.

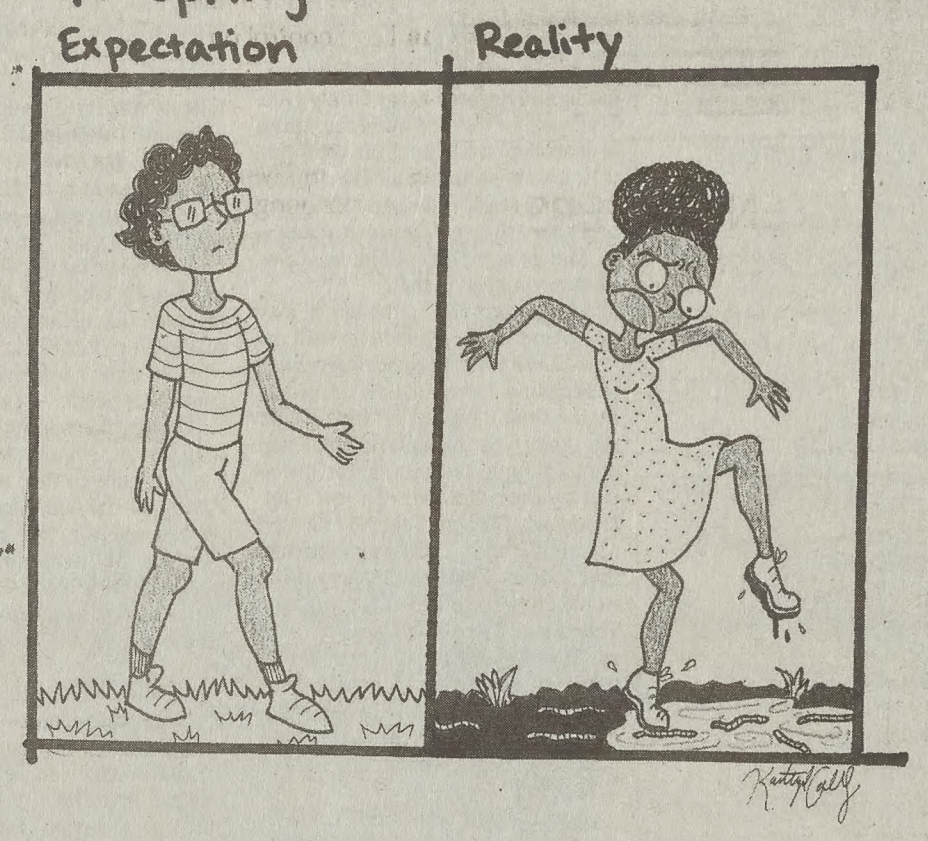

Una noche, en la ciudad de Burlington, un gato estaba buscando comida
Sin Embargo, el gato no lo sabía. Por eso, el gato comió el pez y volvió a su hogar.
Entonces, él encontró un pez. Pero, este pez no era normal.
El próximo día, el gato sentía una sensación extraña. ¡Él pudo volar!
El pez fue de un meteorito que había estrellado con La Tierra. ¡Fue un pez del espacio!
Como resutado, ¡Un héroe es hecho!
¿Un héroe?

VAASU TANEJA

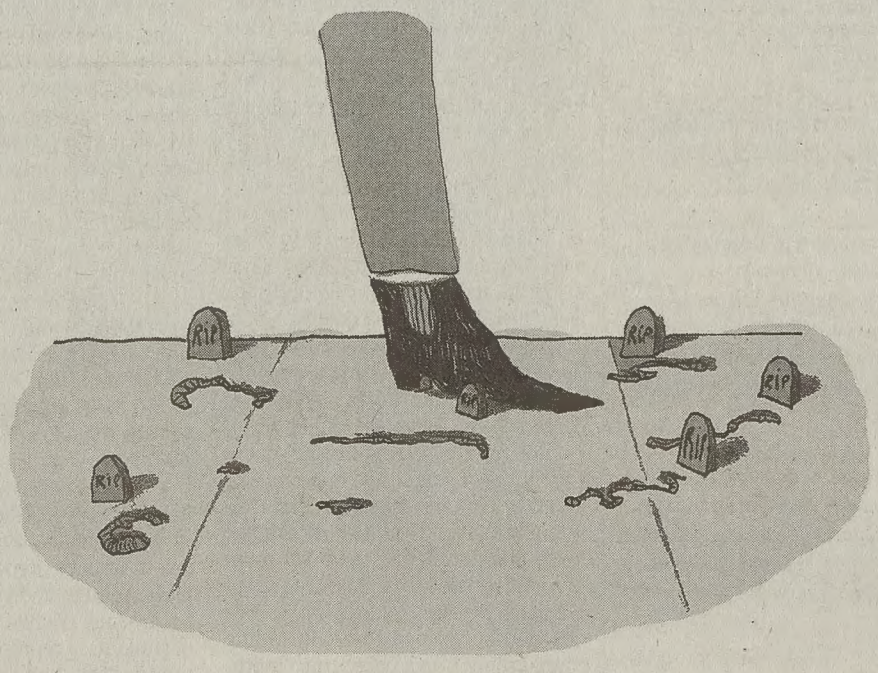




JENNY MOSS



KAITLYND COLLINS



MILLIE VON PLATEN

25 Years of the Mahaney Center for the Arts

The Mahaney Center for the Arts is celebrating its 25th anniversary with an exciting array of performances and events. Please join us for a celebration on May 5, 2018!

6:00 p.m. free events outdoors on the MCA Plaza (weather location: inside the MCA)

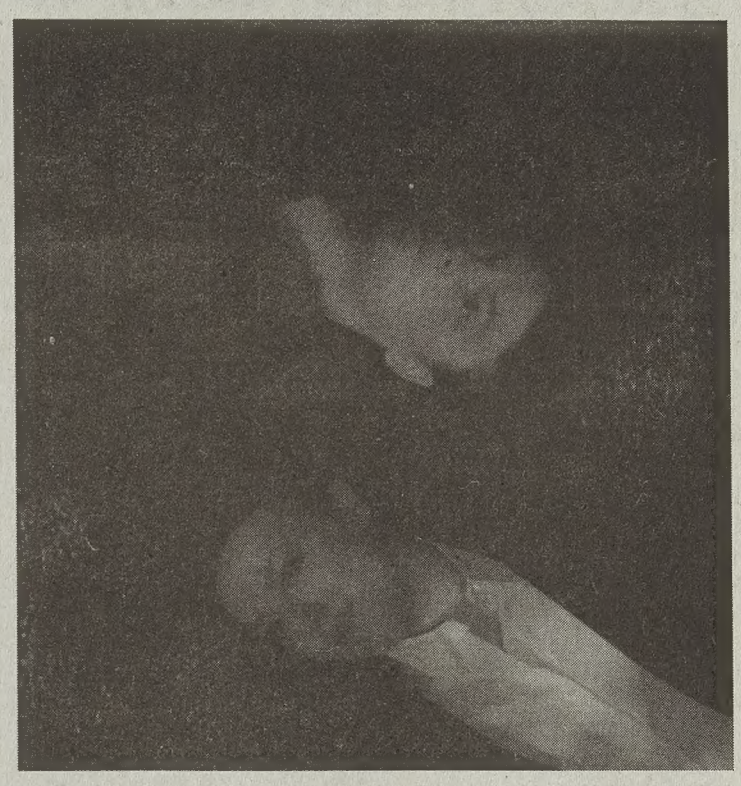
- Snacks and mocktails
- Music by Loïca
- The Museum of Art special displays

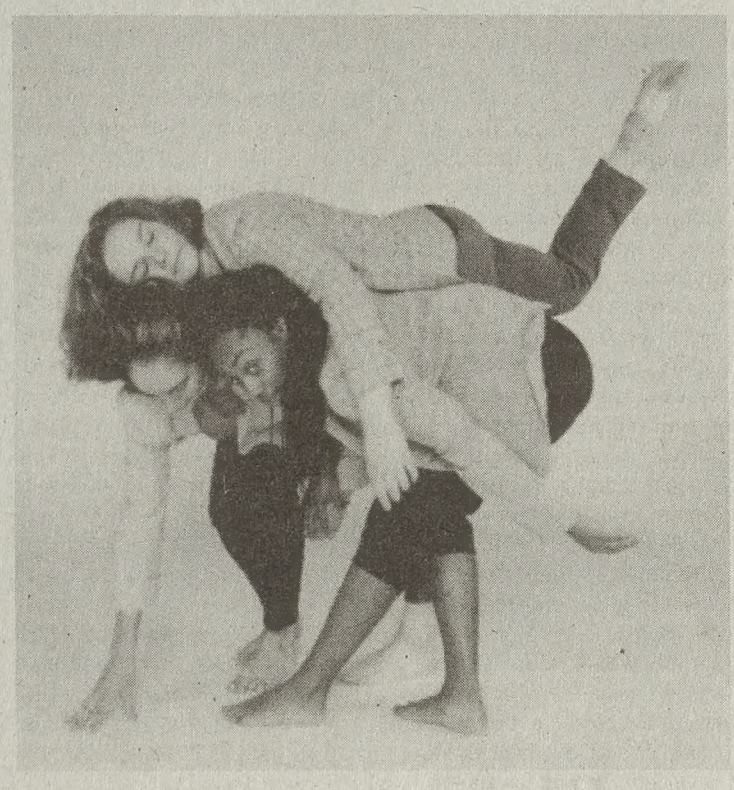
7:30 & 8:00 p.m. ticketed events in the MCA

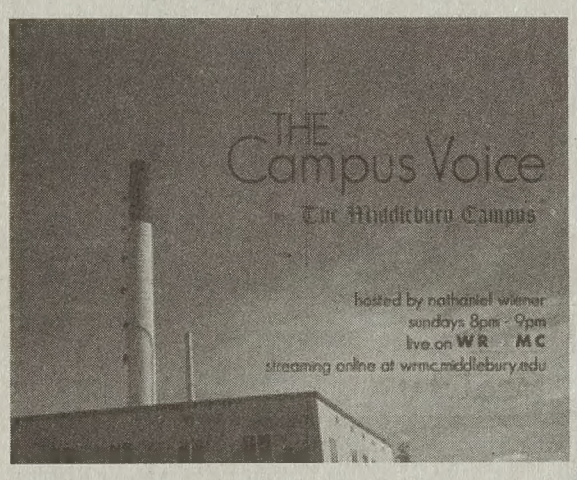
- The Fifth Planet in Seeler Studio Theatre
- Reimagine What Has Been: Senior Thesis Dance Concert in the Dance Theatre
- Cyro Baptista's Banquet of Spirits in Robison Hall

8:30 p.m. free events in the MCA and around campus

- Reception in the upper and lower lobbies
- Nocturne: A Middlebury Arts Festival







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MIDDLEBURY
MAPLE RUN
IT'S BACK!
3-MILE
FUN RUN
All ages welcome! Walkers, too!
· UnTapped maple shot for every runner · Free cotton t-shirt (register by 4/20) · Live music from student bands along the course · Finishers' medals from Middlebury's Maple Landmark · Proceeds go to local charities
13.1 miles 2-person relay team: $65
13.1 miles Individual: $45
3 mile Fun Run: $40
Visit the race website for online registration and race details middleburymaplerun.com
Vermont's Sweetest Half Marathon, Relay and Fun Run
9 A.M. SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018
10th ANNIVERSARY
Sponsored By
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
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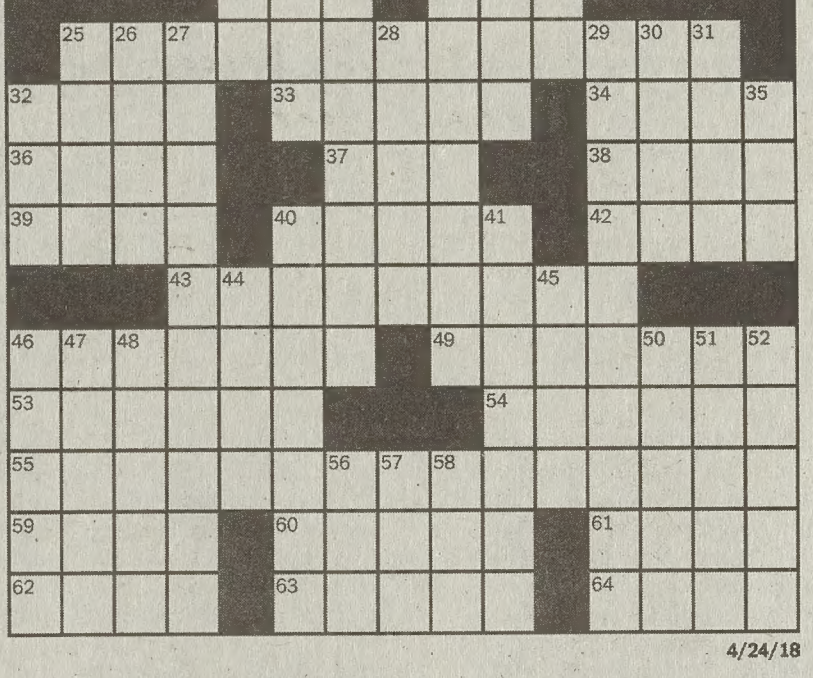
Crossword

ACROSS

1 Johnny of "Chocolat" and "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"
5 Pieces in the game Rummikub
10 Lose control on ice, say
14 Unit for surveyors
15 "Fear of Flying" author Jong
16 Dubliner's home
17 Author of "American Psycho"
20 Magnificent
21 Polish seaport
22 Yoga surface
24 Charlemagne's domain: Abbr.
25 "Jerry Maguire" Oscar winner
32 Teri with a big "Tootsie" role
33 Company with numbered sheep plush toys
34 Southernmost team in the American League
36 Eldest of Chekhov's "Three Sisters"
37 The year 205
38 Furniture superstore
39 Dos x 5
40 Bracelet fastener
42 Piquancy
43 Star of "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom"
46 Approach furtively, with "to"
49 Machine that produces power
53 Patti Page song that begins "It was winter when you told me you were leaving"
54 Continues
55 John Donne quote disproved by 17-, 25- and 43-Across?
59 Ever's partner
60 Mortise's partner
61 13th-anniversary gift
62 Belief systems
63 What birthday cake candles represent
64 Passed with flying colors

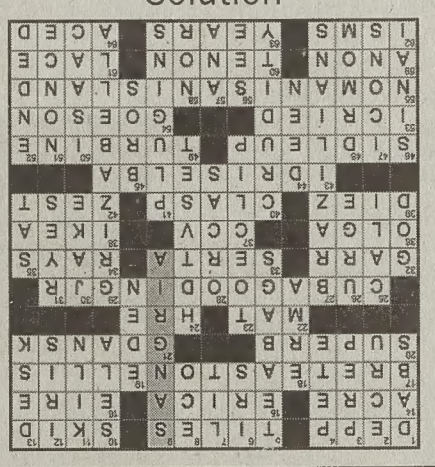
DOWN

1 Brylcreem amounts
2 Stationery color
3 Ready for surgery
4 Sessions of Congress
5 They're likely to get into hot water
6 Form letters?
7 Hammered
8 Green: Prefix
9 Drink made with red wine and fruit
10 Emmy winner Ward
11 Oven for pottery
12 Apt name for an ophthalmologist
13 Rolltop, e.g.
18 Humor columnist Bombeck
19 Genesis garden
23 Pedal attachment on a racing bike
24 Modern hotel room item
25 Colombian city that hosted the 1971 Pan American Games
26 Impulse
27 Largest group of Portuguese speakers
28 Menaces of the deep
29 "Memory" singer in "Cats"
30 Hunky-dory
31 Deli loaves
32 One of two words added to the Pledge of Allegiance in 1954
35 Wasn't a straphanger
40 Primitiveness
41 Software add-ons that offer extra features
44 Paula who wrote "It Ain't All About the Cookin'"
45 Some sibs
46 Egyptian peninsula
47 Mao and Xi, in China
48 She might check for a fever with her hand
50 Fashion designer Mizrahi
51 Time being
52 Over and done
56 Visualize
57 Santa ___, Calif.
58 Negative conjunction



4/24/18

Solution



DON'T MISS THIS

Fifth Planet

An unlikely pair of star-lovers orbit each other over the course of a year, finding solace from their earthbound lives in the planets and each other. Senior 700 work of Eliza Renner and Connor Wright in acting and 500 independent work of Katie Mayopoulos in directing and Grace Zhang in scenic design. $6

Thursday-Saturday, 5/3-5, 7:30 p.m., Saturday 5/3, 2 p.m., Seeler Studio Theatre.

Enron

In this black comedy by Lucy Prebble, directed by Cheryl Faraone, one of the most infamous scandals in financial history is transformed into a theatrical epic. Mixing classical tragedy with savage comedy, Enron spins a narrative of greed and loss with song, dance, and raptors. $15/12/6

Thursday and Friday, 5/3-4 Friday, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, 5/6, 2 p.m. Wright Memorial Theatre

"How Did You Get Here?"

The Middlebury Fellows in Narrative Journalism — Matthew Blake, Will DiGravio, Izzy Fleming, and Tabitha Mueller — have completed a year-long radio documentary project that asked students the question, "How Did You Get Here?" The fellows have crafted 13 unique and compelling digital portraits of students who have described their journeys to Middlebury. Please join us to watch and listen to these stories.

Friday, 5/4, 6-8 p.m., Axinn Center Winter Garden.

The Tragic Beauty of "Human Flow"

By COURTENAY ROCHE
Staff Writer

On Sunday April 29 Middlebury was one of dozens of schools nationwide to join a University of Chicago live simulcast Q&A session with artist and activist Ai Weiwei. The broadcast, held in Wilson Hall, was followed by a screening of Weiwei's award-winning and visually stunning documentary about the global refugee crisis, "Human Flow." The film, which was first released in October at the Venice International Film Festival, tells the stories of some of the world's 65 million migrants, captured on film by travelling to refugee camps in 23 countries over the course of a year.

"Over 65 million people around the world have been forced from their homes to escape famine, climate change and war in the greatest human displacement since World War II," the film's official website reads "'Human Flow', an epic film journey led by the internationally renowned artist Ai Weiwei, gives a powerful visual expression to this massive human migration."

During the Q&A session, Weiwei explained that he was inspired to make the movie in part based on his own experience being forcibly displaced from his home by the Chinese government during the Cultural Revolution.

"Maybe that's why I get involved, because I care about people whose lives are changed being in this desperate situation," Weiwei said. "I am quite identified with those types of people in those conditions."

Weiwei, in addition to being an artist and filmmaker, is also a renowned political activist and frequently uses his art as social commentary. He meant for "Human Flow" to call attention to the global migrant crisis and rally viewers and their governments to action. During the Q&A he pointed out the role that the U.S. has played in the past in displacing families, as well as the current administration's lack of responsibility in accepting refugees into the country.

"Iraq war, all those wars always have our shadows in there," he said. "If we don't really act on those issues, then we become a part of it. This is more than a joke. It's so sad and so shameful as a nation, the strongest nation in the world that has all the resources ... to not bear any responsibility. This is not asking for mercy, it's asking for responsibility."

A poll of the live-stream viewers showed that 97 percent believed the U.S. should let more refugees into its borders, while the other 3 percent "need to watch the movie again," as Weiwei said.

Indeed, the film's message is immediately rousing, as it opens with iPhone footage of a raft coming to shore in Lesovo, Greece and dozens of soaking Syrian refugees tumbling onto the rocky beach. It soon cuts to a drone shot of a large camp in Iraq, panning to scenes of destruction that began with the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq, the caption reads. Throughout the 2 hours and 20 minutes, the film reaches distant corners of the earth and myriad groups of refugees, from Syrians camped outside the barbed-wired Macedonian border to Rohingya Muslims in Bangladesh escaping Myanmar's ethnic cleansing to Palestinians enclosed by tall concrete walls on Gaza's West Bank.

Much more than a documentary exposé, "Human Flow" is a riveting work of political art. It focuses particularly on holding the West accountable for its part in the migration crisis. Gruesome and raw footage of life at the camps is often overlaid with text, such as quotes from poems or relevant news headlines. One scene shows police burning a camp in Calais, France in order to violently evict the thousands of migrants living there as the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union appears in big text on the screen. In another, a hazy vision of black smoke billowing off burning oil fields in Iraq is overlaid with a Newsweek headline: "Oil was Prime Motivator in Iraq War."

The artistry of ascending drone shots, orchestral music and lines of poetry serve to complement the film's weighty subject matter. Weiwei insists that the film is still beautiful, though tragic.

"Even in the most suffering moment, there's a beauty," he said. "Because where there's humanity, there's beauty."

Jason Vrooman, curator of education and academic outreach at the college and one of the organizers of the event, hopes that the Middlebury community will be inspired to lend their help to the refugee crisis by reaching out to activist groups such as the campus' Amnesty International chapter and the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. They can also search therefugeecenter.org/human-flow to find more ways to help.

As Weiwei told viewers, "If we can help one person, or one family, or someone in your neighborhood, it helps humanity. It's all connected. The willingness to act is the most important."

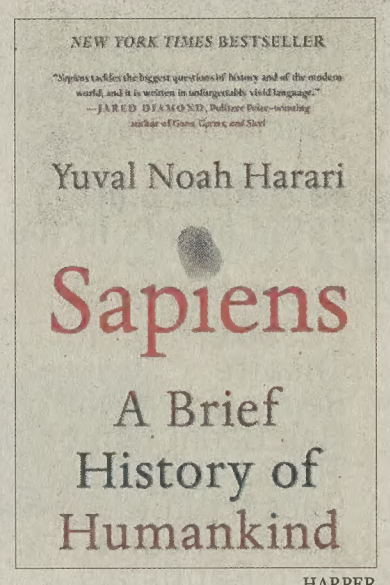
AMAZON STUDIOS
"Human Flow" showcases the humanity amid devastation in the global refugee crisis. The film serves as call to action for its viewers to realize the extent of the issue.

The Librarian Is In

By RYAN CLEMENT
Contributing Columnist

Data Services Librarian Ryan Clement is liaison to the Economics, Geography, Philosophy and Sociology & Anthropology departments, as well as serving as Middlebury's Government Documents Coordinator.

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" by Yuval Noah Harari, 2015


NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
"Sapiens tackles the biggest questions of history and of the modern world, and it is written in unforgettably vivid language."
—JARED DIAMOND, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of Guns, Germs, and Steel
Yuval Noah Harari
Sapiens
A Brief History of Humankind

HARPER

443 pages

"We have advanced from canoes to galleys to steamships to space shuttles – but nobody knows where we're going. We are more powerful than ever before, but have very little idea what to do with all that power. Worse still, humans seem to be more irresponsible than ever. Self-made gods with only the laws of physics to keep us company, we are accountable to no one. We are consequently wreaking havoc on our fellow animals and on the surrounding ecosystem, seeking little more than our own comfort and amusement, yet never finding satisfaction."

- Yuval Noah Harari, "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind," "Afterword"

THE WHAT

"Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind" attempts a grand and challenging experiment: can the full history of Homo sapiens be properly summarized in fewer than 500 pages? The author, Yuval Noah Harari, certainly thinks so. Despite promising a brief history of "humankind" in the book's subtitle, he's smart to focus on one species of humankind (Homo sapiens) and their turbulent 70,000-year history.

"Sapiens" begins when our species began to experience the first of many revolutions that Harari highlights: the "cognitive" revolution. Not to be confused with the cognitive revolution in psychology, which was a reaction against behaviorism, this is the period around 70,000 years ago when humanity developed the capacity for imagination. Our newfound ability to talk about things that don't exist, and to communicate these ideas with others in our group, led to the "collective fictions," which, Harari argues, make Homo sapiens uniquely able to cooperate on a grand scale.

Harari then takes us through several other periods of change and revolution, such as the agricultural revolution, the scientific revolution and the industrial revolution, to trace the gradual consolidation of Homo sapiens from separate bands of hunter-gatherers to the increasingly globalized society we inhabit today. Harari's tracing of humankind's evolution ends on a cliffhanger, hinted at by the quote above.

He says, of our future, "Indeed, the future masters of the world will probably be more different from us than we are from Neanderthals...[w]hereas we and the Neanderthals are at least human, our inheritors will be godlike."

This is a fitting ending to a book whose sequel is titled "Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow."

THE WHY

Any book that attempts to summarize such a grand sweep of history in such a tantalizingly bite-sized chunk is bound to be a hit with the intelligentsia, and "Sapiens" was no exception. It was recommended by Mark Zuckerberg, Barack Obama and Bill Gates, among countless others. I approached this book to determine two things: could this book accomplish its goals, in the way that Hawking's "A Brief History of Time" had, and what baggage and interpretation was Harari bringing to the table when writing about such a fraught subject as the evolution of the Homo sapiens?

As for the first question, I think Harari has mainly accomplished what he set out to do. The grand sweep of humanity's evolution is conveyed in a narrative and engrossing style that still incorporates historical, biological, anthropological and economic scholarship. While Harari does make some authorial missteps (his repeated misuse of the phrase "exceptions that prove the rule" is particularly grating) his general writing is both digestible and informed by significant scholarship. He does gloss over significant controversies and fails to cite a few extraordinary claims, but such is to be expected in a book that attempts such a feat as this.

As for the second, Harari's biases sometimes come to the forefront in ways that will cause many readers, as they caused me, to want to scribble diatribes in the margins of their copy (which I could not do in my ebook copy, unfortunately). He rails against the changes that the agricultural revolution brought, painting the pre-agricultural period of humanity as a sort of golden age when everyone was more free, despite horrendous child mortality rates. He is no fan of "modern liberal culture," but his attacks on it veer toward self-parody. Such clear biases are easy to spot though, and taking a critical stance on these did not hurt my enjoyment of this book. I would recommend this to any reader interested in human evolution and history, and will be ordering the sequel, "Homo Deus," for the library as well.

Bach Festival Brings Emotion

By BEN BEESE
Contributing Writer

Students, faculty, staff, and residents from across Middlebury converged at the Mahaney Center for the Arts last weekend to listen to a 2000-year-old Bible story sung in German to music written 300 years ago. This was the pinnacle of the eighth annual Middlebury Bach Festival. For three days, Johann Sebastian Bach's music was played across the town of Middlebury, from the Mead Chapel Carillon to the Robinson Concert Hall to the four different churches across town that included selections from Bach's prolific repertoire of church music in their Sunday morning services.

The central event of the weekend's festivities was the performance of Bach's St. John's Passion on Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. This piece, originally written for the early April 1724 celebration of Good Friday in Leipzig, places the biblical account of the Passion of Jesus Christ in a dramatic musical setting. The two hour oratorio passion is indeed a mighty and emotional tour de force of musical and religious emotion. It was just the piece to celebrate the passionate, awesome music of Bach.

Yet the question remains, why Bach? What about 300 year old German religious music is important to celebrate in 2018 at a secular American college town?

"A lot of what we hear today (yes, even trap [rap]) has origins in Baroque music like Bach's," said Middlebury Choir member Spencer Royston '21 in response to that question. "For us performers, Bach has been an incredible opportunity to stretch our sight reading abilities... as well as hitting those German consonants with oomph"

Yet perhaps the best way to answer this question is with the music itself.

St. John's Passion starts uneasily. Immediately a turbulent sea of strings and dissonant woodwind calls wavers back and forth, setting the stage for the violent drama to come. "Herr!" The choir shouts, launching into their dark, dynamic first chorale. "Show us, through Your passion, That You... have become transfigured!" Thus they ask, almost demandingly, to learn the religious lessons of the Passion of Christ.

Far from the classical stereotypes one might find in Baby Einstein videos or while on hold with tech support, Bach grabs the audience by the collar and demands their attention. The tense energy flows from the stage, inundating the audience in the drama. "This is important!" Bach's music seems to be saying.

Bach never lets go. Even at the end of this first chorale, when the music gets gentler and John the Evangelist-Narrator starts reciting the story, the drama stays just as sharp, if not as overwhelming, as before. In part this is thanks to the frequent interjections of the choir and orchestra to underline the most important lines. Yet in large part this effect appears through the craftsmanship of the soloists themselves, including Middlebury student Tevan Goldberg '18 and alumnus Jack Desbois '15.5. Although not technically acting, the soloists fully embody their roles, making the story painfully real. The sorrow and grief of the betrayed Christ could almost be seen in Desbois's eyes.

The ability of all the performers, as well as Bach himself, to pull the audience into the story makes the climax, the death of Jesus, all the more emotional. Reaching this point that the music had been building to since that opening chorale, Desbois, as Jesus, declares, "Es ist vollbracht!" It is finished! A mournful aria on that same theme follows. The emotion here is no less moving than it was at that first performance in 1724.

In fact, experiencing Bach's oratorio passion today is not so different than it might have been back in Bach's day. Listeners then, as is true of many listeners now, had no great familiarity with the idea of an oratorio passion. The oratorio passion as a genre, first created only two years before Bach's St. John's Passion, combined the religious message and undertones of church music with the narrative and musical style of opera music. The result was music that combined both the emotional importance of religion with the emotional impact of masterfully crafted secular music and narrative. Before motion pictures, the widespread acceptance of popular novels, or even modern concerts, this was about the most emotional experience yet created in its time. Its legacy lives on, not just in performances of old religious oratorio passions, but also in modern concerts and art as well. As last weekend's guest conductor and University of Glasgow professor John Butt explains, "There is a religious aura about [modern] concerts in general."

It certainly seems true that there is a transcendent, perhaps even spiritual, quality that people enjoy about any concert (or art in general) once they feel adequately swept away from the cares of the world. After all, why does anyone go to a concert if not, in part, to escape their quotidian reality and get a taste of something more? Bach's St. John's Passion is at the crossroads, then, between literally spiritual music and the secular escapism we enjoy in music today.

In the end, perhaps that is why we still celebrate Bach, 300 years later.

"Listening to [Bach's Passion] brings people an overwhelming sense of awe," Royston said. This comes to a peak at the ultimate chorale, Royston's favorite. "The majority of the piece is turbulent and intense, but at the very end with the crucifixion of Christ we hear sweet redemption in the music. Bach is reminding us that things get hard, but it all turns out in the end."

While we may not all be celebrating the Passion of Christ as Bach's original audience was, it is just as good a time as ever to remember that there is more to life than our end-of-year struggles and that we too shall come through our trials triumphant in the end.

BRETT SIMISON
The eighth annual Middlebury Bach Festival included the composer's musical interpretation of the Passion of the Christ.

SPORTS

Baseball Breaks Out Brooms

HANDLES HAMILTON WHO WAS NO MATCH AT THE PLATE OR ON THE MOUND FOR THE PANTHERS

WOMEN'S TENNIS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Women's tennis knocks off No. 8 Amherst, look forward to post-season play.

B2

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

Regular season conference champion women's lacrosse dominates Hamilton, look to lock up auto bid to NCAAs this weekend.

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MEN'S LACROSSE

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMS

Men's lacrosse season ends with loss to formidable Tufts.

B7

SOFTBALL

SUSAN QUIGLEY

Softball handles Wesleyan, working way into middle of the pack in conference standings..

B3

PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE WEEK

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GREAT EIGHT

Rigas' Reasoning

2. ANDREW RIGAS (175–118, .597)

B3

SCOREBOARD

B2

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

With their win over Union on Tuesday night, the baseball team extended their win streak to eight, the second-longest in program history.

Sweep of Continentals Keeps Panthers Alive for Postseason

By JENNY LANGERMAN

Last weekend the Panthers hit the road to face Hamilton for a three-game series. Rarely can a baseball series be called a "must-sweep." However, given the way that the conference standings have shaken out, this was as close to a must-sweep as you can get. Middlebury came up with the win in all three games, returning to school Saturday night with their seven-game winning streak intact.

Though the first of the weekend's games on Friday, April 27 remained scoreless in the first four innings, the Panthers overcame a two-run deficit in the fifth to tie it up with a double from Alan Guild '20. Despite a bit of back-and-forth action in the following innings, strong performances at the plate from Hayden Smith '20, Andrew Hennings '20 and Brooks Carroll '20 allowed the Panthers to come out on top with a 5–3 win.

The victory was spearheaded by captain Colby Morris '19, who threw a complete game. Morris racked up six strikeouts, allowing six hits, issuing only three walks, and surrendering only one earned run.

Morris' start on Friday tied him at the top with Tyler Conrad '02 for the highest number of career starts in Middlebury baseball history. He also stands at fourth for career innings pitched, with a total of 176.

Even in hitting this impressive milestone, Morris remains extremely focused and hardworking. "To be honest, I really couldn't care less about being tied for the most career starts," said a humble Morris. "It definitely shows that I throw a lot, and that's something I try to do for the pitching staff. Starting in one of the first games of the weekend means I want to go as deep as possible to save the bullpen for later in each series, helping us as a whole."

Morris' contributions to the team are widely recognized and commended by teammates, although you would not be able to tell from his sportsmanship and humility. Phil Bernstein '19, who has played with Morris the past three years, spoke volumes about the character of his teammate on and of the field.

"Colby's always been a stellar pitcher for us but has really been lights out for us this year," Bernstein said. "We always know he's going to give us a chance to win when he's on the mound, and his passion for the game is contagious. It's been great for team morale, and he's set a good example for the younger guys."

Middlebury stuck around Clinton, New York, for a doubleheader Saturday, April 28. Middlebury garnered strong wins in both games, coming up with a final score of 9–3 in the first game and 10–3 in the second.

Smith started the scoring off in the morning in the top of the third off an error from Hamilton and continued to ring them in with an RBI in the fifth, a six-run inning in which it all came together for Middlebury's offense. Hamilton's attempts to answer were thwarted, and the Panthers walked away with an easy 10–3 victory.

Senior captain Rob Erikson '18 and Drew Martinson '20 earned the wins on the mound last Saturday, while Henry Strmecki '21 and Smith again held down the fort on the offensive side.

The Panthers got on the scoreboard quickly with three runs in the first inning of the second game. Fielding errors by Hamilton allowed Justin Han '20, Smith and Guild to cross the plate effortlessly. Middlebury scored four more in the third inning, taking a 7–0 lead, and then tacked on another run in the fifth.

Hamilton scored one run in each of the seventh, eighth and ninth innings, but it wasn't nearly enough to counter Middlebury, who added on another two runs in the ninth inning to seal the win at 10–3.

Of note at the plate was Grant Elgarten '20, with one triple, and Strmecki, who had a pair of triples. Additionally, Sam Graf '19 hit his first home run of the season to give the Panthers their sixth run.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Colby Morris '19 tossed a complete game in Middlebury's first win against Hamilton.

The wins at Hamilton last weekend marked the team's second sweep against a conference opponent team this season and put the Panthers on a seven-game winning streak.

Many teams might crumble under the pressure of upholding this streak, but the Panthers see it only as a confidence booster and are planning to bring that same positive energy into upcoming games.

"We're starting to peak at the right time, and with our most important games at home against a team that we are always fired up to play against, I think we're all just excited to get on the field against Amherst," Bernstein said.

Morris agrees.

"The more you win in a must-win position, the more rewarding it is," Morris said. "We are starting to put something special together and just need to keep pushing. Sweeping the other teams certainly helps to build our confidence and teaches us exactly what we need to do to close out games."

As the season grows nearer to the end, the prospect of winning a conference championship becomes a closer reality for the Panthers. Middlebury will continue to fight on throughout this week, but the biggest challenge of the season will be this weekend's series against Amherst.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Hayden Smith '20 went 7-for-15 at the plate in Middlebury's sweep of Hamilton, driving in six runs from second spot in the lineup.

SCOREBOARD

As of Tuesday

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Standings

School	Conf.	Overall
Middlebury*	9-1	14-2
Amherst	9-1	15-1
Tufts	8-2	12-4
Bowdoin	6-4	12-4
Trinity	6-4	11-5
Wesleyan	6-4	10-6
Colby	4-6	9-7
Hamilton	3-7	5-11
Bates	2-8	7-8
Williams	2-8	6-9
Conn. Col.	0-10	4-11

* Regular season champs
(Head-to-head tie-breaker over Amherst)

Schedule

SATURDAY, MAY 5
NESCAC Semifinals – noon

SUNDAY, MAY 6
NESCAC Final – 1 p.m.

BASEBALL

Standings

West

School	Conf.	Overall
Amherst	6-2	19-10
Wesleyan	8-4	20-12
Middlebury	5-4	14-13
Williams	4-8	8-20
Hamilton	3-8	16-17

East

School	Conf.	Overall
Tufts	8-4	18-14
Bates	7-5	14-15
Bowdoin	7-5	14-17
Trinity	7-5	16-14
Colby	1-11	7-22

Schedule

FRIDAY, MAY 4
Amherst at Middlebury, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5
Amherst at Middlebury, noon
Amherst at Middlebury, 3 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 6
Tufts at Middlebury, 12:30 p.m.
Tufts at Middlebury, 3 p.m.

WESNESDAY, MAY 9
Middlebury at Dartmouth, 4 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Standings

West

School	Conf.	Overall
Amherst	10-1	26-5
Williams	9-3	32-6
Middlebury	5-6	18-10
Wesleyan	2-8	14-15
Hamilton	2-10	11-22

East

School	Conf.	Overall
Tufts	9-2	25-7
Bowdoin	9-3	27-11
Trinity	6-5	17-13
Bates	5-7	20-13
Colby	0-12	2-28

Schedule

FRIDAY, MAY 4
Wesleyan at Middlebury, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5
Conference Playoffs, Amherst, MA
Middlebury vs. Bowdoin, 9:30 a.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Nescac Playoffs

FRIDAY, MAY 4
No. 4 Amherst vs. No. 5 Wesleyan, 1 p.m.
No. 3 Wesleyan vs. No. 6 Bowdoin, 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5
No. 1 Williams vs. Tufts/Amherst
No. 2 Middlebury vs. Wesleyan/Bowdoin

SUNDAY, MAY 6
Championship, 9 a.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

Nescac Playoffs

FRIDAY, MAY 4
No. 4 Tufts vs. No. 5 Amherst, 9 a.m.
No. 3 Middlebury vs. No. 6 Bates, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 5
No. 1 Bowdoin vs. Amherst/Wesleyan
No. 2 Williams vs. Middlebury/Bates

SUNDAY, MAY 6
Championship, 1 p.m.

Women's Tennis Enters Nescacs on 8-Game Winning Streak

By ANDREW RIGAS

The women's tennis team continued to roll in their last match of the regular season, when they defeated No. 8 Amherst 6–3 on Saturday, April 28, for their eighth straight victory. Now they turn to the Nescac playoffs, which the Panthers enter as the second seed behind undefeated Williams.

Even with Williams' dominance this season and in the past, the Panthers firmly believe they can parlay the play that has led to their recent winning streak into the first Nescac championship in program history, avenging a loss to Williams in the process if necessary.

"We are very excited to have a potential Williams rematch," said Katy Hughes '20. "We lost in the regular season to Williams 4-5, so we are looking forward to this rematch. However, we are focusing on one match at a time. But if we do play Williams I am confident that we will win."

Since its loss to Williams on April 7, Middlebury had won seven matches in a row leading up to the Amherst match last Saturday, playing its best tennis of the season to beat Quinnipiac, a DI opponent, No. 18 Skidmore, No. 14 Bowdoin and No. 5 Wesleyan.

Their match on Saturday provided the Panthers one more test before they enter the highly anticipated postseason. Amherst's 10–6 record this spring was deceiving because the Mammoths had lost their matches to the other six teams ranked in the nation's top seven besides Middlebury. Their No. 8 ranking spoke to how Amherst stuck with many of the nation's top teams even though the matches ended up as losses. They lost to No. 1 Emory, No. 2 Williams and No. 3 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 6–3, and No. 6 Tufts and No. 7 Pomona Pitzer 5–4.

The Mammoths leapt ahead of Middlebury on Saturday by taking two of the three doubles matches. Actually, Middlebury's pair of Heather Boehm '20 and Ann Martin Skelly '21 swarmed Amherst's No. 3 pair to win the first match of the day 8–2. After Skelly stepped into Christina Puccinelli '19's doubles spot in the middle of the season, she and Boehm are a perfect 6–0 in doubles.

"Although losing Puccinelli is definitely hard, Skelly has really stepped up to the task," Boehm said. "As a first-year she shows no signs of nerves and plays all out. We are definitely now really comfortable with each other's games and are confident going into the weekend with good results, despite the more recent switch."

But Amherst's first two doubles teams outlasted Middlebury's top two pairs by scores of 8–6 and 8–5 to give the hosts their lead.

The Panthers know they cannot afford to come out flat in the postseason, when it is crucial to be sound up and down the lineup.

"We came out not as strong as would have liked to in doubles," said Hughes. "This week we are going to focus a lot on our doubles play so we can have a stronger start."

To win against the Nescac schools and the nation's best teams, Middlebury must be prepared to pounce on opportunities at any doubles or singles spot.

On Saturday, that happened across the board in singles, where Middlebury took the match over. Maddi Stow '20 finished first by dominating Avery Wagman 6–2, 6–1 in the sixth slot. Catherine Blazye '20 followed up her teammate with an equally convincing 6–0, 6–2 win at No. 4, and Skylar Schossberger completed the sweep of the bottom half of the ladder by winning in straight sets, 6–1, 7–6 (7–4).

Ahead 4–2, Boehm clinched the match with her second win of the day in a 6–2, 6–4 victory in the third slot.

These four Panthers have not lost since Middlebury's last loss, at Williams on Saturday, April 7, combining to go 21–0 in singles since that point to fuel the team's winning streak.

"We have worked so hard this entire season and are thrilled to see that our efforts are paying off," said Puccinelli.

Katy Hughes '20 added one more straight-sets victory, winning 6–2, 6–4 like Boehm, at No. 2 for the Panthers' fifth singles win on Saturday, before Puccinelli fell at No. 1.

Middlebury is very confident entering Nescacs, and rightfully so, given their play on Saturday and over the last month.

"While we're still working on individual projects and improving our game on a day-to-day basis, we are all very comfortable with our level of play at this point in the year," Puccinelli said.

That comfort level has become increasingly apparent over Middlebury's latest run in Nescac play, which the Panthers attribute to their commitment since last season ended.

"After months of training and perfecting our fitness, we are now just enjoying the level of play that we get to see at practice every day," said Puccinelli.

Middlebury's comfort in their play on the court and confidence in themselves emerge in their words. But Hughes is also quick to point out the Panthers must take one match at a time, continuing to practice the way that brought them to this point.

"I believe that all of us are going to work very hard this week on and off the court," Hughes said. "So we can go into Nescacs feeling confident."

Middlebury's confidence is not unfounded: it comes from their success thus far this season, their dedication to improving in practice and in every match, and their trust that a relentless work ethic will pay off.

"Even though we played great tennis this past weekend, we know that our best tennis is still ahead of us," said Hughes.

Middlebury have a bye through the first round of the Nescac playoffs, which Amherst is hosting this season, and will play the winner of third-seeded Wesleyan and sixth-seeded Bowdoin on Saturday, May 5.

If the bracket holds, the Panthers will play Wesleyan on Saturday, whom they beat 6–3 in the regular season.

"After playing them two weekends ago, this is definitely not a team to lose sight of," Boehm said. "They are loud and have strong games. We trust our singles but went down in doubles last time so we definitely have been working on that this week."

If they win on Saturday, the Panthers will play for the conference championship on Sunday, May 6 at 9 a.m.

In the past two seasons, the Panthers lost to Williams in the Nescac championship. In 2016, Williams won 5–0, and in 2017, 5–4. Here's to another rematch this season.

Giguere Goes Out with Strong Round

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA

On April 28, two members of the men's golf team traveled south to the Indian Hills Country Club in Connecticut for the 2018 Nescac Championship. The women's squad headed to the Taconic Country Club in Massachusetts for the Williams Spring Invitational. The invitational was their final competition of the season.

Representing Middlebury at the men's championship were Jeffrey Giguere '20 and senior Bennet Doherty '18. Both competed individually and placed sixth and 21st, respectively. Giguere shot a 73 in the first round and a 77 in the second, which combined for a two-round total of 150. Doherty carded respective rounds of 83 and 80 for a two-day total of 163.

Trinity won the tournament as whole, thanks to Bantams like Will Rosenfeld and Kole Kelly, who tied for first on the individual leaderboard. Amherst placed second, with three golfers tying for fourth individually. Williams finished third, while Tufts came in fourth.

"I hit [the] ball really, really well," said Giguere. "It was just a continuation of last week, and fortunately there was very little wind, so I felt like I could hit the ball however I wanted."

Giguere managed to hit 27 out of 36 greens but unfortunately wasn't able to execute with his putting.

"The only thing I was frustrated about was my putting," said Giguere. "I couldn't make a birdie in the second round. My lag putting was so bad — I left myself with very long, hard putts."

"I'm not really disappointed though with the way I'm hitting it — I thought it was a positive. But of course, I was disappointed that I didn't get it done."

In Williamstown, the women's squad finished in third in an eight-team field that saw Williams win the tournament.

Chloe Levins '20 paced the Panthers, shooting an 80 in the first round before carding a 77 on day two and a tournament total of 157, which was good for sixth place. Senior captain Katharine Fortin '18 tied for 13th with a total of 161, while Hope Matthews '18, also a senior captain, shot a 162. She placed 17th. Other Panthers included Helen Dailey '19, who tied for 28th, and Erika Nakagawa '21, who tied for 35th.

Williams won the tournament on the backs of Cordelia Chan and Elizabeth Gudas, who finished first and second with respective scores of 147 and 148. Carnegie Mellon finished second and was led by Summer Kilhara and Charlotte Simpson, who placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Middlebury was followed by Amherst, SUNY Cortland, Hamilton, Suffolk, and LIU Post.

"I was numb going into the weekend, feeling as if it were just another Williams tournament and not being quite able to comprehend that it was the last," said Fortin about her emotions heading into the tournament. "We have the same routine every time we play in Williamstown, and it is always my favorite weekend. I hoped to have two stellar rounds, as one would in the last match of their career, but I also know that having a busy spring and coming out of a minimal-golf winter meant my expectations should be low."

"It was definitely a lot of mixed feelings," said Matthews, echoing Fortin's sentiment. "I wanted to play well since I knew it was my last time ever playing golf as a Panther, so I was feeling a lot of pressure from myself."

"I put all of my emotions into those final rounds," said Fortin. "With the support of friends and family who came to watch, I felt extremely fortunate that I've been playing on this team for four years and [have] shared the ups and downs of each season with all of them. I can't believe it's over, but with four amazing years, a couple team titles, and three individual wins, I am feeling happy and proud."

MEN'S TRACK WINS CONFERENCE TITLE; SPECK COMEBACK EARNS RESPECT OF TEAMMATES AND COMPETITORS

Continued from Page B8

placed second in the pole vault event with a vault of 3.55 meters, while Alex Cook '20 captured third in the long jump with a jump of 5.44 meters. Finally, Helene Rowland '20 finished third in the shot put event with an 11.99-meter throw.

"Competing at Nescacs is completely different from any other meet. In my opinion, the team seems to be much more unified and competitive with our overall results, as opposed to our own personal performances" said Devon Player '18. "As a senior, I look back at all of the positive memories of being a part of this team, and it makes me want to try so much harder to do the best that I can and to cherish the time that I have left with my fellow athletes."

Camaraderie proved to be a constant theme amongst members of the team.

"The preparation for this meet was a real team effort. When a few of the guys realized there was a chance for us to win, the excitement quickly built," said Paul Malloy '18. "From top to bottom, this team has shown an incredible amount of commitment and drive. Everybody knew we had a strong group coming into the season, and we're so fortunate to have an amazing coaching and training staff that knows how to push our limits so that we could perform our best this weekend. I'm so proud of this team for setting a goal of winning this meet and not letting anything get in the way."

One of the Cinderella stories for the track and field teams that emerged in last weekend's championship was that of Isabella "Speck" Alfaro '18, who spent much of the last five months on crutches due to a high risk of stress fracture. However, after being cleared to run in April, she leapt at the opportunity to compete.

"I didn't think I would race for Middlebury again until Coach Wilkerson gave me the option to be a wildcard entry at Nescacs," said Alfaro. "The support from my coaches and team made competing on Saturday incredibly special to me and reminded me why I never quit, even when my doctor told me I wouldn't have a spring season.

"The track team has always been my favorite part of Middlebury," Alfaro added, "so to have all my teammates line the track and cheer gave me the biggest smile while I was running down the last straightaway."

With this spirit of support and pattern of excellence, the track and field teams now look forward to the Division III New England Championships, which start at MIT this afternoon and run until Saturday, May 5.

"This win should propel us into New Englands and some of us into NCAAs," Martinez said. "Over these next few weeks, expect some sick performances and a lot of qualifiers. The goal is to score some serious points at these meets and crown even more champions."

ITA MEN'S TENNIS RANKINGS

As of April 26

Rank	Team
1	Middlebury
2	Emory
3	Bowdoin
4	Williams
5	CMS
6	Gus. Adolph.
7	Chicago
8	Amherst
9	Carnegie Mellon
10	Washington U
11	Pomona-Pitzer
12	Wesleyan
13	Kenyon
14	Brandeis
15	Trinity (TX)
16	Swarthmore
17	Mary Washington
18	Tufts
19	Univ. of the South
20	Whitman

ITA WOMEN'S TENNIS RANKINGS

As of April 26

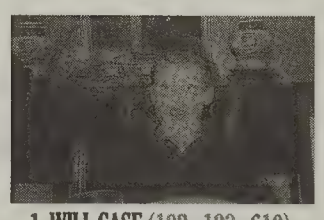
Rank	Team
1	Emory
2	Williams
3	CMS
4	Middlebury
5	Wesleyan
6	Tufts
7	Pomona-Pitzer
8	Amherst
9	Carnegie Mellon
10	Chicago
11	MIT
12	Sewanee
13	Washington U
14	Bowdoin
15	Wash & Lee
16	Case Western
17	NYU
18	Skidmore
19	Mary Washington
20	Trinity (TX)

IWLCA COACHES WOMEN'S LACROSSE RANKINGS

As of April 30

Rank	School	Record	Previous Rank
1	TCNJ (23)	15-2	1
2	Amherst (1)	15-1	2
3	Salisbury (1)	16-1	3
4	Gettysburg	14-2	4
5	York (PA)	13-3	5
6	Middlebury	14-2	6
7	Franklin & Marshall	15-3	7
8	Mary Washington	15-3	9
T-9	Trinity (CT)	11-5	11
T-9	Washington and Lee	13-4	10
11	Tufts	12-4	8
12	Messiah	13-3	12
13	Bowdoin	12-4	13
14	Wesleyan (CT)	10-6	14
15	Catholic	11-6	15
16	William Smith	12-4	17
17	Colby	9-7	16
18	SUNY Cortland	13-4	18
19	Ithaca	13-4	19
20	St. John Fisher	15-2	20
21	Rowan	13-2	21
22	Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	17-1	22
23	SUNY Geneseo	13-3	23
24	Stevens	13-4	24
25	Washington MD	13-4	25

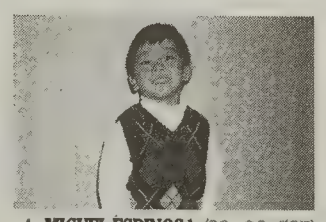
EDITORS' PICKS



1. WILL CASE (192–123, .610)

2. ANDREW RIGAS (175–118, .597)

3. ETHAN BRADY (76–57, .571)



4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA (29–26, .527)

76ers vs. Celtics

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
CELTICS It's a gut feeling. I think it will be a pretty good series, but I don't think its the 76ers' time yet.	76ERS I'm riding the 76ers to the NBA finals.	76ERS I'll hop on that ride, @Andrew	76ERS As much as I love the C's Embiid and Simmions are goning to be difficult to stop.

Raptors vs. Cavaliers

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
CAVS All-time, LeBron is 8–2 in the playoffs against Toronto, averaging 30 ppg.	RAPTORS Before this year's first round, LeBron was 48–7 in the first round. But he and the Cavs needed seven games to win this year. They're not getting past the Raptors, who are better than the Pacers.	CAVS Lebroniano baby!!	RAPTORS Lebron himself can't be the only one to drop 30 every night.

Rockets vs. Jazz

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
ROCKETS James Harden and the Rockets offense will be too much for a Jazz squad a few years ahead of schedule.	ROCKETS Rockets and Warriors in the Western Conference Finals, this year's de facto Finals, moving on.	ROCKETS This explosive squad is best poised to take the W.	ROCKETS The Rockets have been hot these playoffs.

Pelicans vs. Warriors

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
WARRIORS We all know where this is going...	WARRIORS And moving on...	WARRIORS Next.	WARRIORS It will take perfect execution from the Pelicans to win the series.

Bruins vs. Lightning

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
LIGHTNING According to the old trusty phone, and the ESPN app, the Lightning just beat the Bruins 4–2 in game 2 to tie the series at 1.	BRUINS Thank you Will for stating the obvious. Unfortunately, you will be crucified when the Bruins, we're in New England you know, win.	BRUINS This is the only Boston team I will ever pick.	BRUINS The B's offensive is wicked fast.

Capitals vs. Penguins

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
PENGUINS The playoff misery continues for the Capitals.	CAPITALS The Caps have a lot of times to the Penguins in the playoffs (1–9 all time). But this is a new era.	PENGUINS Big fan of these birds.	PENGUINS It's going to be a close one, but Crosby will carry them through the series.

Will women's lacrosse win the conference championship?

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
YES They have the looks of a team that can make a deep run later this month.	YES But Amherst will give them a run for their money in the championship.	YES If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.	YES This team is amongst the best in the country.

Softball vs. Bowdoin

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
BOWDOIN The Polar Bears are going to be too much for the Panthers.	MIDDLEBURY Will doesn't think the Panthers can pull this one off, but softball is going to shock my fellow editor.	MIDDLEBURY Go forth, Pants.	MIDDLEBURY It'll be close, though.

Baseball vs. Amherst

1. WILL CASE	2. ANDREW RIGAS	3. ETHAN BRADY	4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA
MIDDLEBURY They take the series and will clinch a spot in the tournament with either a sweep or a Hamilton win over Amherst this week, according to Mr. Rigas, who still has yet to formally apologize for picking against our guys last week...	MIDDLEBURY I apologize to my community for picking against the baseball team this week. Amherst will be a tough matchup, but I think the Panthers can win at least two this weekend.	MIDDLEBURY	MIDDLEBURY Upset alert.

Softball Enters Conference Playoffs on Heels of Sweeping Wesleyan

By LAUREN BOYD

The Middlebury softball team improved their record to 18–10 last weekend as they took two games from Wesleyan.

Going into Nescac playoffs, the meeting between these two teams tested the waters for intra-conference play. The matchup was a preview for the tournament ahead.

"We've been performing extremely well against other Nescac teams, which gives us great confidence going into the rest of this season," said captain Kati Daczkowski '18. "Our game is really coming together. The wins we picked up this weekend are a testament to what we can do."

The Panthers' decisive victory over the Cardinals in the first (4–1) and second (8–3) game shows that the team is consistently improving as a unit.

Taylor Gardner '18 continued to be an offensive threat for Middlebury in the first game. With the bases loaded in the first inning, Gardner started off the scoring for the Panthers with a single to left field. Her hit drove Allison Quigley '18 home for the first run of the game.

Middlebury held its lead until the fourth inning, when Wesleyan tied the game at one run apiece.

This pressure motivated the Panthers to pull ahead, which the team did in the sixth inning. Gardner continued her impressive offensive game, while Daczkowski, Emily Morris '21, and Ali Della Volpe '18 all got on base and eventually were sent home. Walking off the field triumphantly, 4–1, the team was excited to continue their success in the next game.

"Winning the first game was great for us and our mentality," said Daczkowski. "We went into the second game with a great attitude, ready to compete."

The Panther offense was complemented by a strong game on the mound by Quigley, who pitched the first five innings and was followed by Morris to end the game.

Unlike the first game, Middlebury started off trailing the Cardinals 1–0 by the beginning of the third inning. Emily Moore '21 put the Panthers on the board in the third, blasting a home run to tie the game 1–1. After Moore's homer, Middlebury picked up steam and seized on their momentum.

By the fourth inning, the Panthers had a seven-run lead, 8–1. Though Wesleyan was able to pick up two more runs at the end of the game, the Panthers clinched the win, 8–3.

"We had a great weekend of play," Daczkowski added. "There's still more to accomplish, though."

GREAT 8 EIGHT

TEAM
Rigas' Reasoning

2. ANDREW RIGAS (175–118, .597)

1 Track & Field

The men's track & field team won its first Nescac championship in program history on Saturday, knocking off Williams, who has won 23 of the 33 conference championships. The Panthers got wins in the 100-meter dash, the 1500 meters and two relays, and had strong finishes across the board — which makes sense. That's how they won the championship. And, if we get anything wrong this week, just know it's for good luck.

2 Men's Tennis

Middlebury has climbed to the top of the national poll entering the Nescac playoffs. And now the real fun begins, first in the loaded Nescac tournament. The Panthers may face off with No. 3 Bowdoin, who beat them in the Nescac championship last season, but Middlebury beat the Polar Bears two years ago in the championship. Both teams will have to get there first, though, which won't be easy considering No. 4 Williams, No. 8 Amherst, and No. 12 Wesleyan are also in the field.

3 Women's Lacrosse

Can the Panthers win their second Nescac championship in three years after going eight seasons without winning one? They're the first seed and will host the semifinals, but they will not have an easy road either. They had to come back against Trinity, their semifinal opponent, and No. 2 Amherst will most likely be waiting for revenge in the finals.

4 Women's Tennis

They ended the regular season on a high note with six straight victories and turn to Nescacs now as well. It's difficult not to look forward to a rematch with No. 2 Williams, but Middlebury must take care of business to get to the finals first. Teams like Tufts, Wesleyan and Amherst would pose challenges as well.

5 Baseball

I admit, picking against baseball last week was a bad idea. I'm a believer after the Panthers swept Hamilton to extend their winning streak to seven games. Colby Morris '19 tossed a complete game in the first game of the Hamilton series, and Rob Erickson '18 and George Goldstein '21 pitched in quality starts as well. Next up is Amherst, who beat Hamilton by one run twice. If Middlebury sweeps the Mammoths, they secure a spot in the Nescac playoffs.

6 Softball

They took two against Wesleyan and have a five-game winning streak now too. After a tough sweep to Williams, the Panthers have turned their season around and may be peaking at the right time. They get Bowdoin in the first round of the Nescac playoffs on Saturday. The Polar Bears also had two close losses to Williams, and the Panthers have a chance to spring an upset.

7 Men's Lacrosse

Tough way to go out for the men's lacrosse team with a difficult draw in the first round. The Panthers could not quite get over the hump this season, losing two close games to the Jumbos and a couple more close ones earlier in the season. Their nine seniors will be sorely missed, but four of the top five scorers return next season as Middlebury will try to reload to battle in the uber-competitive Nescac.

8 Mel Kiper Jr.

Relay for Life 2018

Annual Event Raises Over $30,000 for American Cancer Society

BEN IV RENTON

Middlebury's annual Relay for Life was held on April 28. Highlights of the day included performances from Stuck in the Middle (SIM) and the Mischords, zumba and a Luminaria ceremony.

The official pizza of
The Middlebury Campus

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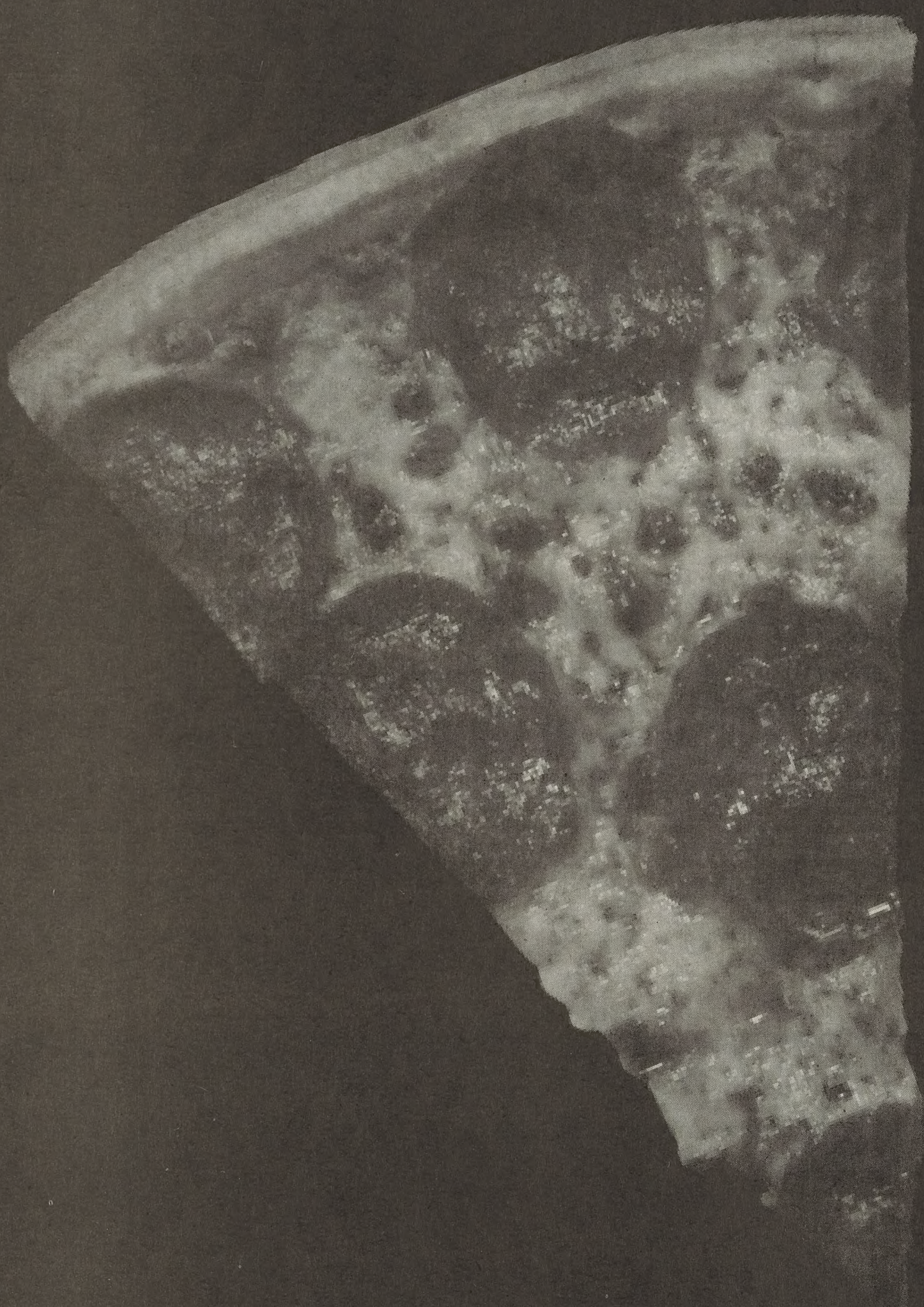

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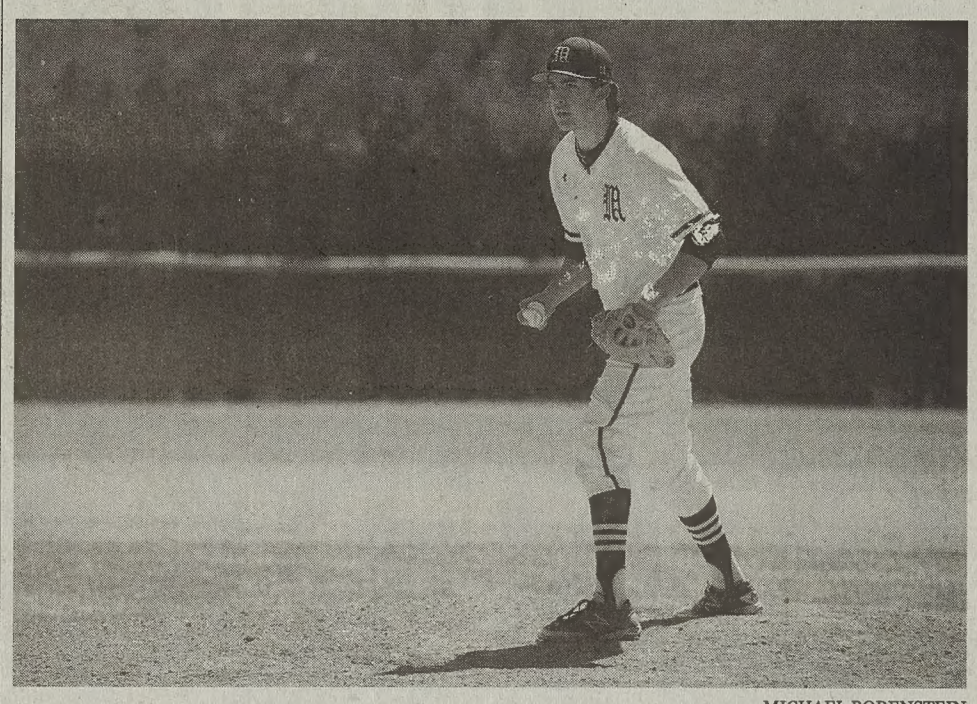
Panther Team of the Week:
Men's Track and Field

KIERA DOWELL

Nicholas Hendrix '20 won the 100-meter dash, Jimmy Martinez beat the field in the 400-meter dash, Kevin Serrao won the 1500-meter race, and the 4x100-meter and 4x400-meter relay teams took first to propel the Middlebury men's track & field team to its first Nescac championship in program history on Saturday, April 28. The 4x100 relay team of Jackson Bock '18, Jackson Barnett '18, Michael Pallozzi '18 and Hendrix won its race, while the 4x400 team of Arden Coleman '20, William Robertson '21, Joshua Howard '19 and Martinez took that race. And in every event but two, a Panther finished in the top five to complete a historic weekend in Middlebury athletics.

Panther Player of the Week:
Colby Morris '19



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Colby Morris '19 tossed a complete game in Middlebury's 5–3 win over Hamilton on Friday, April 27, allowing three runs (only one was earned) on three hits and three walks in his fourth win of the season. In 56.1 innings this season, Morris has turned in a 1.92 ERA while striking out 47 hitters and walking only 13. And he has done just as well in the Nescac. He has a 1.91 ERA to lead Middlebury to victories in three out of the four games he's started in conference play. On Friday, Morris also tied Tyler Conrad '02 for the most starts in program history and has now tossed the fourth-most innings in the Middlebury record books.

A Target on Their Backs: Men's Tennis Enters Postseason as No. 1 Team in the Country

By JACK KAGAN

Just days after the new ITA Division III rankings came out, new national No. 1 Middlebury men's tennis ended the regular season on Sunday, April 29 with a dominant 7–2 win over Nescac championship hosts No. 8 Amherst. The men are anxious to prove themselves at Nescacs and NCAAs, but this won't come easily, as the other teams in the top five in the country are all looking for another shot at the Panthers.

Middlebury hosted Amherst on Sunday in their sixth and final home match out of 21 total matches. Sent inside by the rain, the Panthers showed their fondness for the Nelson Recreation Center indoor courts as they bested the fourth-best team in the Nescac in convincing fashion.

Amherst tennis is no stranger to tennis glory, however. The Mammoths won both Nescac and national titles in 2011 and 2014, and their only losses this year have come against the current top five teams in DIII tennis. Their closest test came against Williams the day before that team snuck by the Panthers 5–4 on April 7.

On Sunday, Middlebury showed no mercy to the Mammoths, closing out conference and regular season play. Starting the match, the Panthers doubles squads returned to the excellence to which they have been accustomed this season. Timo van der Geest '18 and Peter Martin '19 picked up their 13th win of the season as they stomped Oliver Kendall and Jesse Levitin by a score of 8–2 at No. 3 doubles. At No. 2, William de Quant '18 and Noah Farrell '19 notched their eighth straight win, also by a score of 8–2. Lubomir Cuba '19 and Kyle Schlanger '18 tallied their seventh straight win to move to 16–3 this spring. Panthers doubles teams moved to an impressive 50–13 this spring as they once again gave the team a 3–0 lead heading into singles.

Schlanger was first off the court on Sunday with a routine straight-sets win over Amherst's Jayson Fung as the senior made it six in a row moving into his last postseason. Facing adversity early was standout Cuba, who ended up losing a battle in the third set to Amherst freshman phenom Sean Wei, a recent five-star prospect who was ranked 26th in his recruiting class nationally. With a comfortable 4–1 lead, the Panthers still found themselves in several battles down the stretch.

Senior William de Quant found himself in one of these tight matches after being forced into a decisive third set after splitting the first two lopsided sets. Assistant coach Andrew Thomson said of de Quant's match, "He played a [player] who ... played No. 1 for Amherst last year ... [s]o a very talented player. Will got off to a very hot start and won the first set decisively, and the second set didn't go his way, but to his credit he really bounced back strong and remained confident." De Quant commented on how he was able to turn the tide in the third set, saying, "The difference between the second set and the third set was actually quite subtle. Whoever was on the front foot and controlling from the baseline was the one winning the most points, and I forced myself in the beginning of the third set to step into the court and dictate. Once I did this, I found it easier to spread my opponent out and keep the outcome of the points on my racket and not his." De Quant was able to overpower his opponent in the third set by a score of 6–1 to clinch the match for the Panthers.

The drama still was not over for Middlebury as Farrell found himself in a tight second set requiring a tie-break. For Thomson, Farrell's demeanor was plenty indication that he would figure it out and secure the win.

"It was awesome watching him play," Thomson said of Farrell. "Noah did a great job playing his game and being patient and enjoying being out there. He always plays better when he's having fun on the court." Farrell's win grew the Panthers' lead to 6–1.

The first-years at the bottom of the ladder were left, then. Andre Xiao '21, who has posted an impressive 12–6 record thus far, has fallen into somewhat of a funk lately, and lost his fourth straight match on Sunday, falling in straight sets. Nate Eazor '21 had a different match, however, as he shut down his opponent 6–3, 6–4 to complete the 7–2 win for Middlebury.

The next test for the Panthers could come as early as Friday, May 4, when the No. 3 and No. 6 seeds face off in the opening round of the Nescac tournament at Amherst. As of Sunday, the team did not know its seeding for the tournament.

"From a seeding perspective, Bowdoin, Williams and Middlebury are all tied for first, but due to ... tie-breaking rules, we could well end up being third seed," de Quant said. Though they sit atop the national rankings, the Panthers could be nagged by a previous loss to Williams, which created a triangle between the Ephs, the Panthers, and the Bowdoin Polar Bears, who suffered their only loss at the hands of Middlebury several weeks ago. With the No. 3 seed, Midd would have to play an opening-round match against the No. 6 seed, potentially Wesleyan or Bates. With the No. 1 or 2 seed, they would get an automatic bye into the semifinals.

Their No. 1 national ranking guarantees the Panthers nothing in the Nescac tournament, where they may get a chance to settle the score with Williams.

"Of course, we would love to get a swing at Williams again, as we are a different team than we were when we came up just short to them a few weeks ago," de Quant said. "Despite now being No. 1, we feel we are only starting to heat up, and we have not yet reached our peak level." Revenge against Williams, or a conference-tournament win punctuated by another win against national No. 3 Bowdoin, could be just what the Panthers need to remove all doubt surrounding their new ranking.

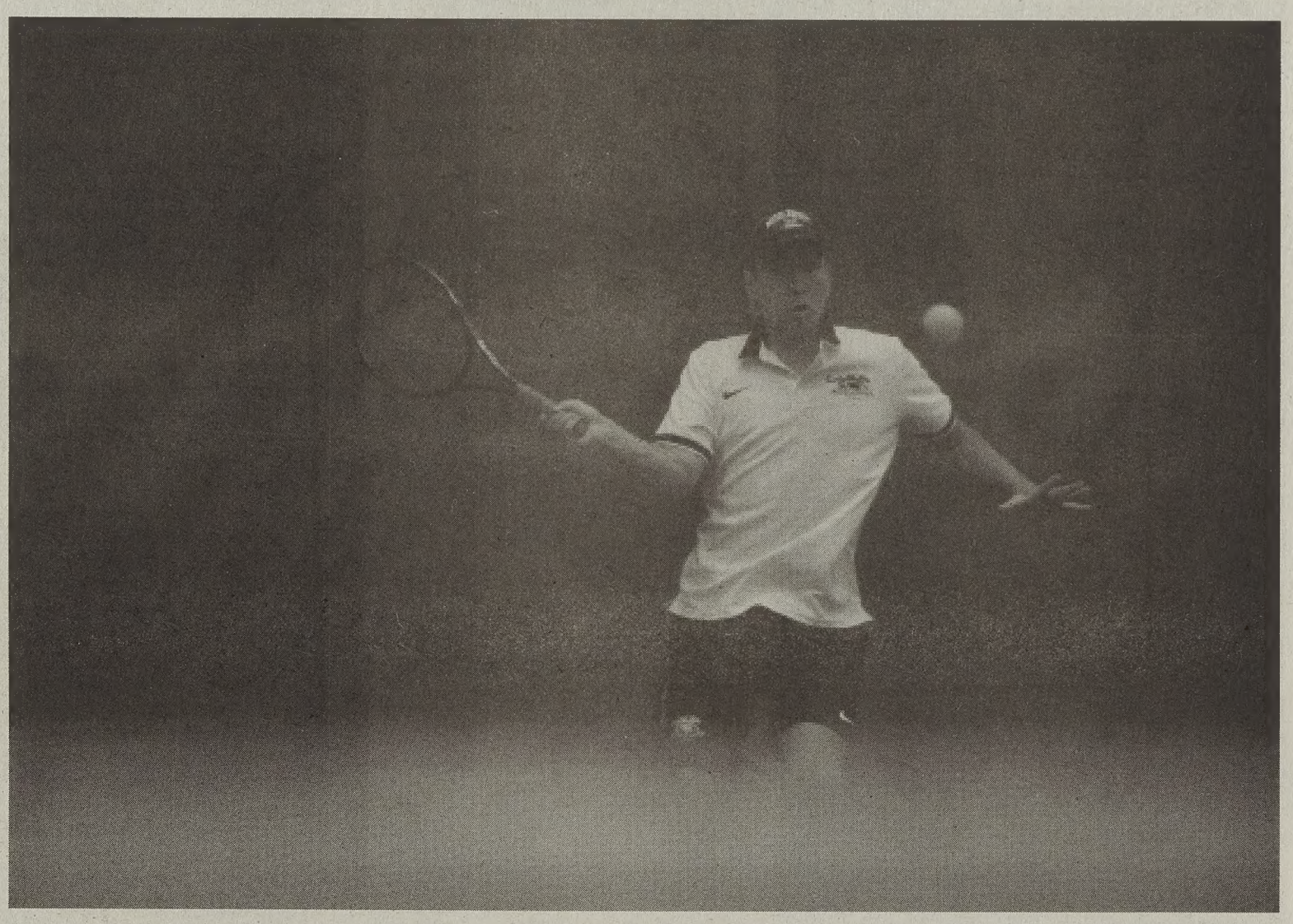
"I think [our new ranking] was well deserved on our part. However, there are a lot of very good teams out there, and it's definitely a year where there's a lot of strong teams at the top and you could certainly make a case for them being really strongly ranked," Thomson said. Because of the strength of the Nescac as a whole, Thomson added, this weekend could be a good test for the Panthers to prove themselves yet again.

"We've done a good job beating some really good teams recently, but they're going to be hungry and coming after us, especially after the latest rankings, so I think we have a little bit of a target on our back," Thomson said. The Panthers are sure to see some familiar faces this weekend at Nescacs. "Every year we set a goal to win the Nescac championship. The Nescac is the deepest conference in the country. To be the best we have to beat the best," de Quant said.

The Panthers did not know their fate for the weekend after receiving the No. 1 ranking or even after beating Amherst. This, however, does not change their goal. They are sure not to look past the familiar opponents in the Nescac for this weekend.

De Quant said it best: "We go into the weekend ready for any opponent, focused on controlling what we can control."

The Panthers are deep, talented, healthy and ready for another go at the best conference in the country this weekend at Amherst.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Noah Farrell '18 won at No. 2 doubles and No. 2 singles in Middlebury's 6–3 win at Amherst. Men's tennis will be the three seed in the conference tournament.

Women's Lacrosse Dominates Hamilton from the Outset; Will Host Nescac Semifinals

By HEATHER BOEHM

After having to recover from first-half deficits on consecutive weekends leading up to the Nescac playoffs, the women's lacrosse team pledged to come out firing at the sound of the first whistle. The first-seeded Panthers did exactly that in the quarterfinals of the Nescac playoffs, jumping out to a 3–0 lead in the first 7:05 of their matchup with eighth-seeded Hamilton on Saturday, April 28, en route to a 14–5 win on Kohn Field.

Now, the Panthers will have to play a full 60 minutes against stiffer competition in their semifinal game against sixth-seeded Trinity at Kohn Field on Saturday, May 5. Trinity led Middlebury 8–4 in the team's regular-season matchup before the Panthers stormed back with 10 unanswered goals to get a 14–8 win.

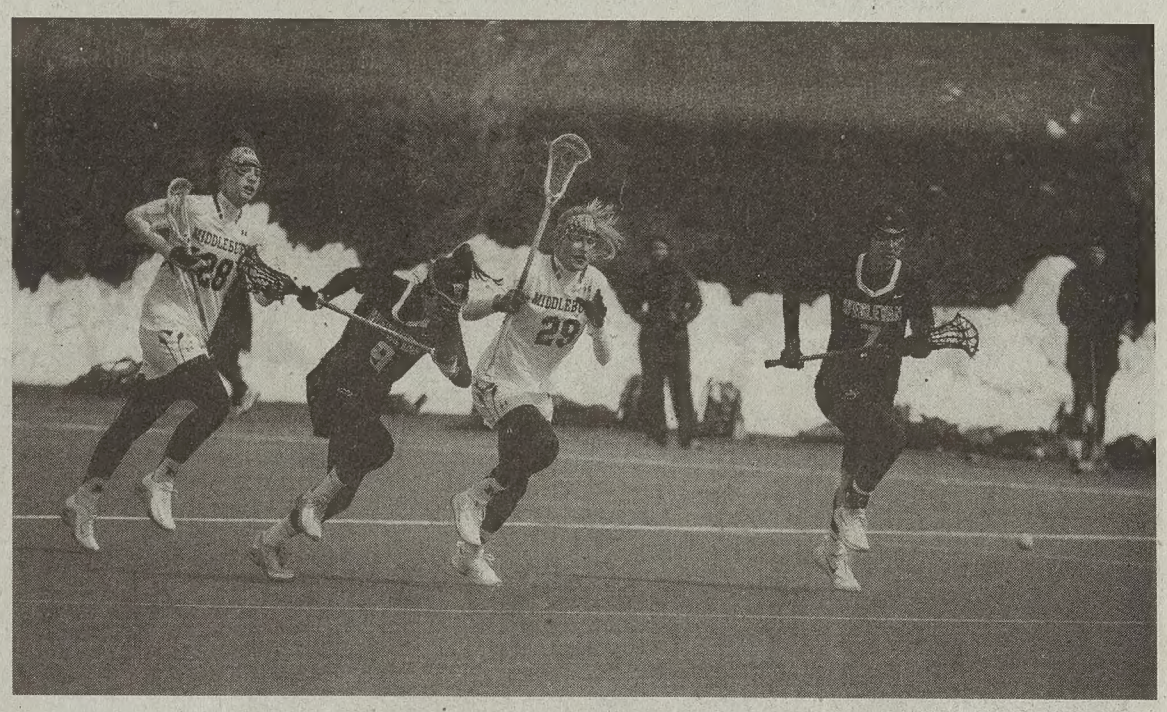
"I think that going into this Hamilton game, we knew how important it was [to] come out strong," said Murphy. "We had some difficulty in the beginning of the last game against them, so this time we were determined to give it our all from the first whistle. We were really excited going into our first postseason game, and our energy showed on the field in our ability to get a quick start on Saturday."

Middlebury's three goals in the first seven minutes set the tone for the entire game on Saturday, as the Panthers outshot the Continentals 39–18 and outscored the visitors by at least four goals in each half.

Kirsten Murphy '21 started the scoring just over two minutes into the contest. Thirteen seconds later, Hollis Perticone '18 made the score 2–0 on a free-position shot. Then Emily Barnard '20 scored less than five minutes later as the Panthers looked completely in control on their home field early on.

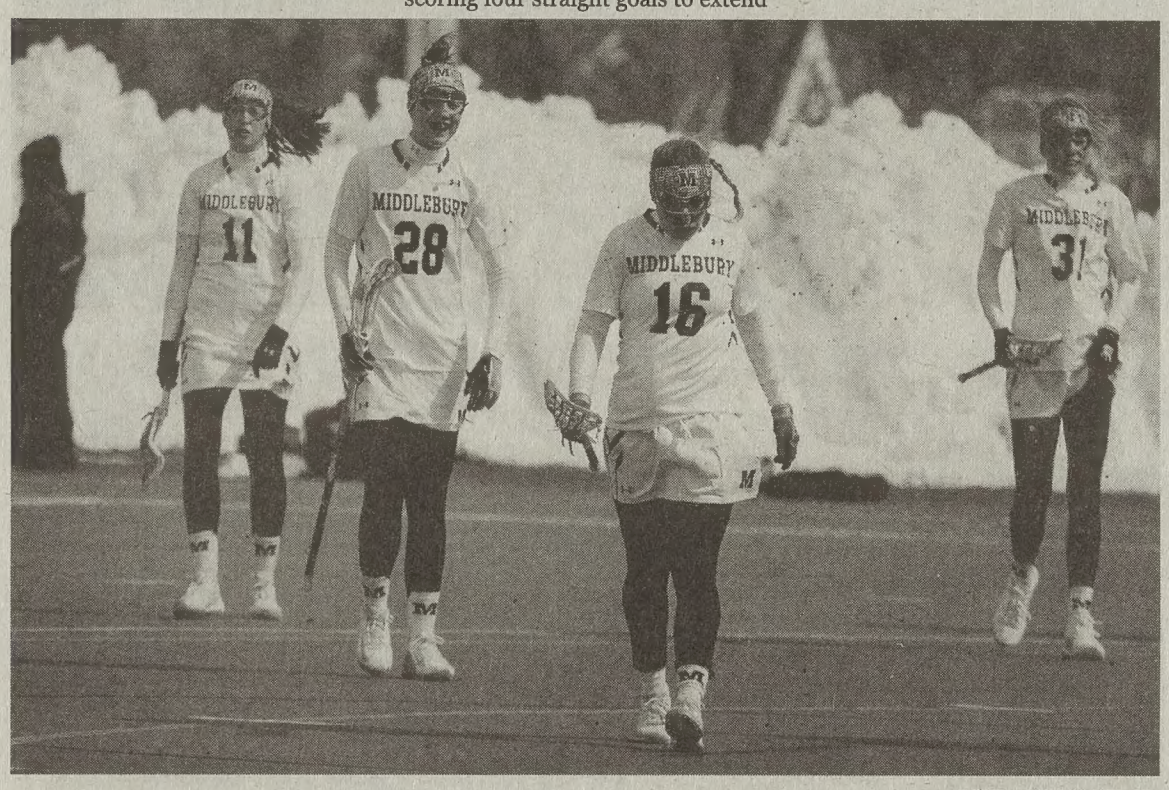
Hamilton slowed the tide momentarily with back-to-back goals, but another Murphy-fueled run put Middlebury ahead 7–2 at the halfway point. Murphy added her second and third goals of the game — her 22nd and 23rd goals of the season — and then set up Jenna McNicholas '19, who scored Middlebury's seventh and final goal of the first half.

Just like in the first half, the Panthers pounced on the Continentals at the beginning of the second half, scoring four straight goals to extend their run from the first half to eight straight goals, putting Middlebury ahead 11–2 and the game effectively out of Hamilton's reach. Georgia Carroll '18 scored three of the four goals. Hamilton came back with three goals of its own, but Middlebury closed out the game with three straight to seal a 14–5 victory, as Carroll put two more home for a game-high five goals.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Hollis Perticone '18 scored one goal, collected two ground balls, controlled three draws, and caused two turnovers in Saturday's win.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The women's lacrosse team is coming into its own as the conference title chase heats up. They've overcome their slow starts as Saturday's performance against Hamilton, when they scored the game's first three goals.

Along with Carroll's five goals, Barnard and Murphy both scored three, and Murphy assisted on four more. Murphy, in her first season at Middlebury, has scored 23 goals and assisted on a team-high 23 more. Her 23 assists place her second in the Nescac in that category, and she is second on the team in total points, behind only Emma McDonagh.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to play on this team and the chance to go in each game," said Murphy. "I think that my stats, along with my other teammates', reflect the depth and versatility of our team. Any given game, there is a new leading scorer, and we often have a high number of people scoring each game. This team has been extremely welcoming, and the fact that I am a first-year does not even factor into my thoughts on the field."

Nine Panthers have scored at least 10 goals this spring. And perhaps even more telling, no Middlebury players are in the top 10 in goals scored in conference play, even though the Panthers have scored the most goals as a team.

Middlebury's back line turned in a solid performance that is the norm for the conference's best-scoring defense this spring. Addy Mitchell '21 and Evie Keating '18 held the line on Saturday. Mitchell caused four turnovers and recovered five ground balls, while Keating forced three turnovers and picked up three ground balls. Julia Keith '20 and Kate Furber '19 each played a half in the cage.

This Saturday's game promises to be more of a challenge for the Panthers. Trinity surprised third-seeded Tufts to reach the semifinals and could have beaten Middlebury in their first game.

"In preparation for this weekend's game against Trinity, I think a big focus of ours is to go hard from the start," said Murphy. "Some of our recent games have had a slow start where we have had to come back from behind in order to win. In practice this week we'll work on having composure but also intensity throughout the entire game."

Middlebury aims to win its second Nescac championship in three years after an eight-season drought. If the Panthers beat Trinity on Saturday, they will play the winner of Amherst and Bowdoin on Sunday for the Nescac championship game on Kohn Field.

Men's Lacrosse Season Ends at the Hands of Tufts

By IMRAN GANDA

For the first time in four seasons, the sixth-seeded men's lacrosse team (9–7, 5–5) failed to win a game in the Nescac playoffs, when they lost to No. 6 Tufts, the No. 3 seed in the playoffs, 16–12 on Saturday, April 28, in Medford, Massachusetts. After ending last year on a high note by making an improbable run to the Nescac championship game as the sixth-seed, the 2018 season ends in disappointment for a group that looked primed to make some noise in Nescacs after winning six of its last seven regular season games.

"Obviously we were aiming higher than what we ended up doing, but this team is full of heart and tremendous character," A.J. Kucinski '20 said.

Middlebury lost to Tufts 13–10 one week before Saturday's matchup, but led 7–3 early in the second half before the Jumbos scored seven unanswered goals. The Panthers learned they could compete with the Jumbos, but it would take one of their best efforts to beat the sixth-ranked team in the nation, which had lost only one game the entire season.

"Having just played a week ago, we knew what to expect, as did they," said Kucinski.

The higher-seeded hosts dominated early on, scoring the game's first three goals in the first seven minutes of action and taking a 6–2 lead at the end of the first quarter.

"In that first quarter, they executed quickly and built a lead," Kucinski said. "But there was still plenty of lacrosse to be played after that."

But the Panthers discovered how difficult it was to come from behind against the Jumbos. Every time Middlebury cut the lead to three goals, Tufts came back with a goal of their own, and after three quarter, the Jumbos still led by four, 11–7.

Tufts gradually spread the icing on the cake in the final quarter, extending its lead to as big as 15–8 before Middlebury scored four of the last five goals to make it a 16–12 final.

With seven days separating their two games, the Panthers felt they adjusted themselves to the Jumbos' game plan effectively. As mentioned time and time throughout the season, however, the Nescac is a tight and competitive conference that can see matches going in any direction.

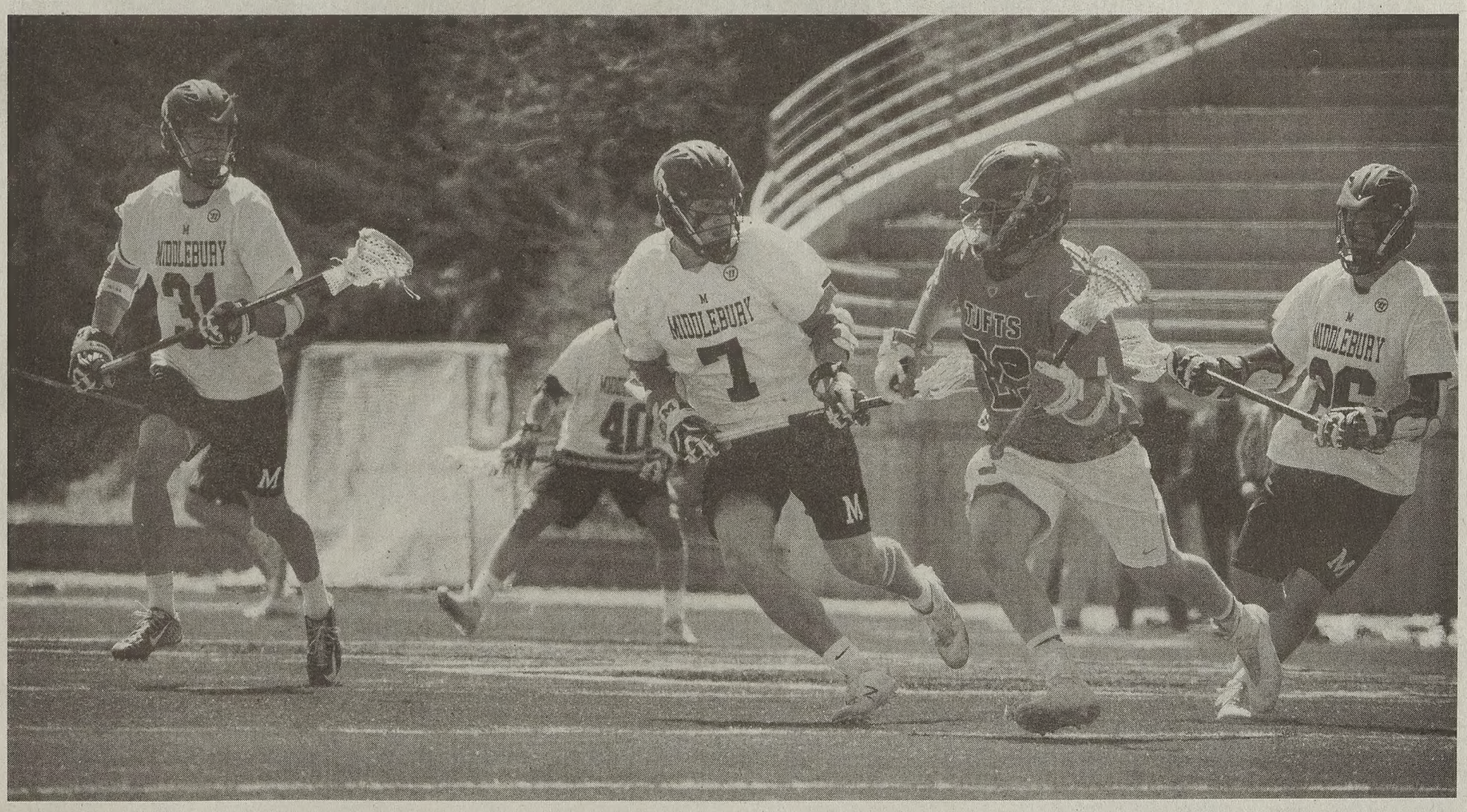
"It just came down to them executing a few more plays than we did," Kucinski said. "That's obviously a tough pill to swallow, but that does not mean we did not compete, and I'm proud to call myself a part of this group."

With the season ending prematurely, the returning Panthers will now take the time to rest, recuperate, and think about the next season. But it's the end of the line for Middlebury's nine seniors, a group that included four team captains, seven regular starters, and the team's leading scorer (Henry Riehl '18). In their four seasons in the blue-and-white, the seniors made two NCAA tournaments and two Nescac championship games while going 43–29.

"On Saturday, I had a few opportunities to score big goals to give our team momentum, and I did not execute," Riehl said after his last game at Middlebury. "With that being said, I gave it everything I had, and that's all you can ask for. I'm so grateful I had the opportunity to play four years with so many amazing guys."

The senior class of any sports team is integral to setting the tone with regard to season expectations and team culture. Although Middlebury was unable to advance past the quarterfinals this season, the seniors have helped instill a certain mentality among the underclassmen, who look forward to return next season determined to bask in success.

"We were led by a tremendous senior class who were examples on and off the field to us, and we will miss them in both regards, but they have laid a great framework for the rest of the team, and our expectations are very high for the future," Kucinski said.



Men's Track and Field Wins First Conference Crown

Incredible Individual Storylines Lead the Way

KIERA DOWELL

The men's track and field team poses after winning their first conference championship crown, taking it from the two-time defending champions, Williams.

By JORDAN HOWELL, DOMINICK TANOH and the SPORTS EDITORS

In the past five seasons, the men's track and field team has finished second, third and fourth at Nescacs, but not first. In fact, the Panthers had never won a Nescac championship ... until last Saturday, April 28. On the backs of first-place finishes by Kevin Serrao '18, Jimmy Martinez '19, Nicholas Hendrix '20, the 4x100-meter relay team and the 4x400 team, and bolstered by strong performances in every event, the Panthers supplanted the two-time defending champions, Williams, who have now won only 23 of the 33 Nescac crowns — instead of 23 of 32.

And combined with the women's team, which finished third, Middlebury track and field improved upon last year's performance, when the men's and women's teams came together to finish seventh at Nescacs.

"Knowing that this was the first Nescac title in program history made last weekend even more special," said Martinez. "Knowing that we could actually win it this year led to so many spectacular performances. I can't express how proud I am of everyone for bringing the amount of energy they did."

Martinez was one of several Panthers who rose to another plane of performance on Saturday. He won the 400-meter dash with a time of 48.02, while Serrao won the 1500-meter race in 3:52.20 and Hendrix crossed first in the 100-meter dash in 10.58.

Two relay teams encapsulated what needed to be a complete team effort if they wanted to unseat Williams and outrace the rest of the Nescac competition. Jackson Bock '19, Jackson Barnett '18, Mike Pallozzi '18 and Hendrix came together to run a 42.29 in the 4x100-meter relay, crossing the finish line five-hundredths of a second before Tufts' team to win the race. Arden Coleman '20, William Robertson '21, Josh Howard '19 and Martinez beat the entire field by at least two seconds to claim the 4x400-meter relay crown.

Along with these five victories, a Panther finished in the top five of every competition but two on the men's side. James Mulliken '18, Nathan Hill '20, Connor Evans '19, Matt D'Aquila '21, Harrison Knowlton '19, Ascencion Aispuro '18, Tyler Farrell '18, Jon Perlman '19, Sawyer Tadano '21, Jonathan Fisher '20, John Natalone '19, Max Memeger '21, Nathaniel Klein '21, Minhaj Rahman '19 and Brenden Edwards '18 all chipped in top-five performances. And these spectacular efforts came across all of the events — individual running and relays, jumping and throwing.

The man who has guided Middlebury to this moment is Martin Beatty '84. Beatty was a sprinter for the track team and a running back on the football team at Middlebury. After graduation, he was an assistant for the track and field, football and women's basketball teams for a season before leaving to fill similar assistant roles at Trinity. In 1987, he returned to Middlebury as an assistant for the track and field, football and men's basketball teams. Then, in 1988 he chose to focus on track and field, becoming the head coach. The women's team has won two Nescac titles under Beatty. Now, in his 30th season at the helm, he has championships with both teams.

"Being the first men's track team to win Nescacs is something we will never forget," said Hendrix. "Not having won before definitely served as a motivating factor. We're especially happy for our coach, Martin Beatty, because he deserves it for all the hard work he's put in over the last 30 years."

The women's team also featured remarkable performances. Kate McCluskey '18 broke a personal record and placed third in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.13, along with a first-place finish in the 400-meter dash with a time of 56.22. Additionally, McCluskey won first place in the 4x400 team race along with Lucy Lang '19, Kai Milici '21, and Kate Holly '21.

"I am so proud of both of our teams this weekend, men and women," McCluskey said, praising her teammates. "We had a lot of outstanding performances all around, and everyone had a lot of fun doing it. I also really admire the way our team comes together at NESCACs. All day we had people cheering for one another."

With a time of 4:35.22, Katie Glew '21 placed fourth in the 1500-meter run. Kate MacCary '19 secured second place in the 5000-meter run with a time of 17:16.57. Kreager Taber '19

Continued on Page B2

EMMA STAPLETON

Kevin Serrao '18 won the 1500-meter race at the Nescac Championships.

KIERA DOWELL

The women's track and field team finished third at the Nescacs championships.

EMMA STAPLETON

Nicholas Hendrix '20 won the 100-meter dash and took second in the 200.

EMMA STAPLETON

Nathan Hill '20 finished fourth in both the 800 and 1500-meter races on Saturday.